

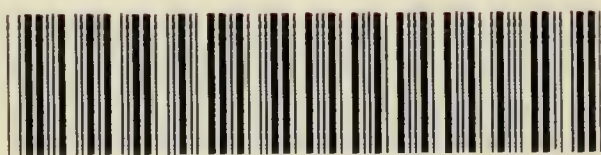
ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE.

AMALGAMATION, 1907.

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NOTE

FOR convenience of reference this volume has been made up from leaves taken from the 'Medico-Chirurgical Transactions' of the years 1905–1907. As the story would not be complete without the records of the Centenary and some other Meetings of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, at which the scheme was spoken of and urged upon the attention of the profession, these, although not specifically "records of the events and work" which led to the Amalgamation, have been added.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE

RECORD

OF THE EVENTS AND WORK WHICH LED TO THE
FORMATION OF THAT SOCIETY BY THE

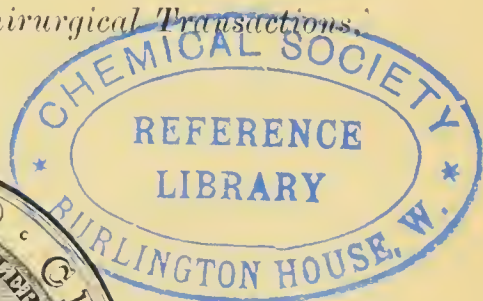
AMALGAMATION

OF THE LEADING MEDICAL SOCIETIES OF LONDON

WITH THE

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL
SOCIETY

[*Being Extracts from the 'Medico-Chirurgical Transactions.'*
1905-1907]



London

ADLARD AND SON, BARTHOLOMEW PRESS
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FIRST DRAFT OF A SCHEME OF AMALGAMATION

Sussex Hotel, St. Leonards-on-Sea,
February 18th, 1905.

To Sir Richard Douglas Powell, Bart., K.C.V.O., M.D., etc.,
President of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society.

Dear Mr. President.—At your request I have endeavoured to put on paper my ideas as to the possibility of forming in London a Confederation, or rather an amalgamation of the existing Medical Societies.

I know that in spite of many difficulties the thing is perfectly feasible, if all the contracting parties instead of dwelling on the difficulties, or the purely fanciful loss of prestige, will approach the subject with a determination to secure for British Medicine the great advantages which would undoubtedly be conferred by the establishment of such a powerful organisation.

But if any scheme of amalgamation is to be a success all questions, not only of individual wealth or pre-eminence, but also of exclusiveness, should be ignored, and one aim alone be kept in view, viz. the promotion of Medical Science by the banding together into one harmonious whole all the available talent to be found in the various societies now existing.

Some of my suggestions may appear at first sight merely arbitrary, but for some years I have, from time to time, carefully weighed and considered almost every point which is likely to arise in practice, and although I have endeavoured not to burden this letter with unnecessary detail, I think I am prepared to give good reasons for every suggestion I have made.

Without further preface I now offer for your consideration my—

ROUGH DRAFT OF A SCHEME FOR AMALGAMATING THE PRINCIPAL MEDICAL SOCIETIES OF LONDON INTO ONE SOCIETY, WHICH SHALL INCLUDE SECTIONS FOR THE SPECIAL STUDY OF THE SUBJECTS NOW DEALT WITH BY DIFFERENT SOCIETIES.

General.

For my purpose I have dealt with the following Societies only, not from any intention of excluding any omitted, but simply because in the short time at my disposal I have been unable to get the necessary figures in reference to others. But the lines upon which I have based my calculations admit of the list being either diminished or increased without greatly affecting the proportionate result—that is, assuming that in any case the Medical Society and the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society remain in the final list. Indeed, it should be borne in mind that these two Societies are the ones that would bring the most substantial financial contributions to the amalgamation, and that most of the others would reduce the *average* wealth of the new body. These two Societies are able, by themselves, to form a strong and wealthy academy, which could, in itself, find all the material necessary for useful working sections.

The Societies are the—

Medical.	Laryngological.
Royal Medical and Chirurgical.	Dermatological.
Pathological.	Otological.
Clinical.	Diseases of Children.
Obstetrical.	Odontological.
Epidemiological.	Life Assurance Medical Officers.
Physiological.	Balneological.
Neurological.	Anæsthetists.
Medico-Psychological.	Hunterian.
Ophthalmological.	Harveian.
Gynæcological.	Medical Officers of Health.

These Societies represent a membership of about 7000, but a hasty analysis and comparison of the various lists show that this membership is made up of about 4750 *persons*.

If these Societies formed themselves into a new body, it should begin with a membership of (say) 4000 persons, and upon this estimate my calculations are based.

SUBSCRIPTION.

One of the chief difficulties in any scheme of amalgamation of the London Societies is the varying subscription for membership,

and unless it is agreed at the outset that those paying such a subscription as half a guinea (as is the case with more than one society on my list) are willing to pay a higher subscription in return for the greatly increased privileges they will enjoy, they must be dropped from the scheme.

On the other hand, it is impossible to expect that any considerable number of the members of those Societies which have a guinea subscription would be willing to pay *Three guineas* (the subscription of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical); and, as it would not only be invidious, but unfair that the old members of that body should pay a higher subscription than their fellow members of the New Society, they should benefit by a reduction of their subscription. I propose, therefore, that the subscription difficulty be met by a compromise.

Those members of the New Society who should desire to enjoy all the advantages it can offer should be elected "FELLOWS" and pay a subscription of TWO GUINEAS, while those members of existing Special Societies who would be satisfied with the privileges of one special section, should be elected as "MEMBERS" and pay an Annual Subscription of ONE GUINEA. Members might have the use of their sectional library,¹ and be entitled to receive the Fasciculi of the 'Transactions' belonging to their sections.

(It might be worth considering whether to permit a "Member" to join a second section on payment of an additional subscription of HALF A GUINEA.)

While dealing with the question of subscriptions one point should be emphasised. There should be an end for ever of the inconceivably unfair and unbusinesslike arrangement prevailing in some Societies (until recently even in the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society) of electing members who pay no subscription. They cost their society a proportion of the working expenses, and by so much diminish the funds provided by their subscribing *confrères* for publication and other useful work; and even in some instances are elected to office; and dispose of funds to which they do not contribute. The value of a member's adhesion to a society which he is willing to join *on the free list* is rather less than the value of his subscription! My scheme provides for no "deadheads."

The only Fellows or Members of the New Society who should pay no subscription are those who have paid a Life Composition Fee to the Society or Societies to which they already belong.

¹ It should be remembered that under existing conditions only three of the Special Societies possess libraries.

HEADQUARTERS AND PROPERTY.

Only two of the Societies on my list possess houses of their own. That of the Medical Society is a valuable property, but is not large enough to house such an institution as is now contemplated. There remains, therefore, only the House of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, which in its present condition would provide enough accommodation for the new Society. When more room is required it will be the result of an increased membership, and that will mean an increased subscription income, which will enable the Society to dispense with some of its non-medical tenants, until at length the whole of these magnificent premises shall be in the exclusive enjoyment of a powerful and wealthy medical institution in every way worthy to represent British Medicine.

[Parenthetically, however, I would suggest that as soon as possible the building site should be utilised to its utmost extent, for before long neighbours will acquire ancient lights, which will seriously depreciate the value of the property. I would suggest—

(1) To build, over the existing meeting-room and library-room, a new meeting-room capable of seating at least 500 persons, with two or more smaller rooms suitable for Committees and sectional library-rooms. The present meeting-room could then be utilised as an additional reading-room, and the North Room become the Council Room. Or, if that be found to be impracticable—

(2) To build, over the North Room, corridor, and part of Library, two or three useful rooms for Committees and Sectional Libraries.

I have already made arrangements to provide the capital required for such an operation, and I believe the additional income which could be obtained through these additions would provide interest and sinking fund to pay it off.]

The House of the Medical Society would provide a valuable income producing asset of the new Society. It already brings to its owners a net profit rental of about £600, and when that Society becomes absorbed in the new one and its members are housed in Hanover Square it should, if properly developed, produce from £1200 to £1500.

The Societies possess invested funds to the value of nearly £5000, and these, put into the common fund and wisely invested, should produce an income of at least £200.

TRANSACTIONS.

For the combined 'Transactions' of the new body several changes would have to be made. At present all the Societies

publish octavo volumes, and if this *format* be retained it would mean publishing some twelve or fourteen volumes every year. I suggest that both for economy and convenience the *format* of the Royal Society's 'Philosophical Transactions' be adopted. The quarto page in double column would effect considerable economy in space, and consequently in cost, while for illustration purposes a quarto plate is infinitely superior to an octavo.

Instead of an annual volume, I would suggest the publication of a monthly fasciculus during the nine working months of the year only, for medical publications in July, August, and September are apt to be lost sight of. There should be no attempt at uniformity of size in the fasciculi, but each should contain just those papers that are ready for press when publication day arrives. Prompt publication is of paramount importance in medical literature, and it is absurd that (as often happens now) an early paper of the session should be kept back because some later one, owing to dilatoriness of the author or for any other reason, is not ready for press.

To enable members of sections to receive their sectional papers only, each section should have a separate pagination and each paper a distinctive number, which would give its place in the final volume. This would involve no difficulty in the general index. Instead of a simple page number, a reference would be given thus, "24¹⁶." The large figure would indicate the paper, and the small figure the page of the paper. I submit a specimen of the new format.

Published in this form—*punctually* each month—I firmly believe that your 'Transactions' would soon be regarded as a periodical of the highest value, which every medical man of any standing throughout the English speaking world must possess, and that it would command a large and profitable sale far in excess of the sum given in my budget, which I have conservatively fixed at the amount realised under existing conditions.

MANAGEMENT.

There should be a General Council, in which should be vested the control of the Society at large and the management of its property. The Council should consist of at least fifteen *Fellows* (including the President, two Hon. Treasurers, two Hon. Secretaries, two Hon. Librarians, two Hon. Editors, and six non-official Councillors), and to these should be added the Presidents of Sections, who should rank as Vice-Presidents of the Society. Each section should annually elect its own President and other officers, and manage its own affairs, except in the matter of expenditure, which should be subject to the control of a general Finance Committee. There should be a Library Committee; a broadly representative Editorial Committee, who

should decide by ballot as to acceptance or rejection of all papers ; a Finance Committee ; and a House and Property Committee.

STAFF.

Some of the Societies included in the list have permanent paid officers, and they would probably stipulate for the continued employment of these. Obviously it would be to the advantage of the new body to secure the services of a staff already trained.

The increased work and detail would render it necessary to make further additions to the existing staff of the R.M.C.S., viz. :

An assistant clerk for the Secretary, a typist, a book-keeper and cashier, additional servants to attend at meetings (say two), and one or more Call Boys for the Library.

The entire Staff would therefore consist of :

Secretary and Clerk.

Librarian, with additions to the Staff of the Library taken from other Societies (probably three).

Library Assistant and Call Boys.

Bookkeeper and Cashier.

Typist.

Porters and house servants as at present, with possible addition as above.

INCORPORATION.

In case of difficulty, and in any case of delay in obtaining a new Charter, it probably would be wise to form the new Society under the existing Charter of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, which is comprehensive enough to cover such a scheme ; and it would then only be necessary to defer temporarily the necessary alterations in the Constitution of the Council and in some minor details. Once formed, there should be no difficulty in obtaining a *Supplementary* Charter, conceding a change of name and the other alterations as to Council, and other details.

BUDGET.

In this estimate of Income and Expenditure of the new body *I have left out of count the existing income and expenditure of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society except as to two items specially alluded to*, for, as that Society now stands, its income shows a substantial annual surplus. I therefore *assume* its accounts as a foundation, and merely deal with probable *additional* expenditure and revenue under the proposed new conditions.

Additional Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cost of combined 'Transactions' published in 4to monthly fasciculi for Fellows, with separate sectional fasciculi for Members of Sections...				3500	0	0			
<i>Less</i> cost of R.M.C.S. portion (already provided for)	400	0	0						
By Sales as at present	350	0	0						
				750	0	0			
							2750	0	0
Cost of increase of staff (for details see Appendix)							720	0	0
Loss from R.M.C.S. income by reduction of subscription to £2 2s.				450	0	0			
Loss of rent from "meeting" tenants ...	500	0	0						
Loss of rent from Odontological ...	270	0	0						
				770	0	0			
							1220	0	0
Cost of increased purchases for library							300	0	0
Additional printing and stationery ...							500	0	0
Contingencies (say)							510	0	0
							6000	0	0
Estimated surplus							697	0	0
Total							£6697	0	0

Additional Income.

	£	s.	d.
Rents from Chandos Street and income from investments of various societies	1500	0	0
Entrance fees—to be paid by new Fellows and Members <i>after</i> the formation of the new Society, say 100 at £2 2s. ...	210	0	0
Subscriptions of 1000 Members of other Societies who already belong to more than one, and who it may be assumed would desire to become "Fellows" at a subscription of £2 2s.	2100	0	0
Subscriptions of 2500 "Members" at £1 1s. (I deduct 500 subscribing Members allowed for in R.M.C.S. budget)...	2625	0	0
Estimated sectional subscriptions from Members who might desire to belong to two sections, say, 500 at 10s. 6d. (<i>say</i>)	262	0	0
	£6697	0	0

There are many details which will require careful consideration, but it would be better to deal with them after discussion of the main features, and if I can be of use to you in this discussion, I need scarcely say that I am heartily at your service.

Very faithfully yours.

J. Y. W. MACALISTER.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Wednesday, March 1st, 1905, at 5 p.m.

Present—37 Fellows.

SIR RICHARD DOUGLAS POWELL, Bart., K.C.V.O.,
M.D., President.G. NEWTON PITT, M.D., } Hon. Secs.
STEPHEN PAGET, }

The PRESIDENT nominated Dr. Bowles and Dr. Wightwick to act as scrutineers of the ballot, and declared the ballot open until 6 o'clock.

The SENIOR HON. SECRETARY (Dr. Newton Pitt) read the report of the Council.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THE Council has every reason to congratulate the Fellows that the last financial year of the Society's Centenary finds its affairs in a more flourishing condition than at any previous period of its history. This is the more noteworthy, as it coincides with the falling in of the Berners Street lease, from which the Society enjoyed a net annual income of £436.

During the past year 14 new Honorary Fellows (7 Foreign and 7 British) and 26 new Ordinary Fellows

have been elected, including 15 Resident, 9 Non-resident, and 2 Service Fellows. On the other hand, the Society has to record the loss, by death or resignation, of 1 Honorary Fellow and 35 Ordinary Fellows. This number includes several Non-resident Fellows, who have passed away during the last few years, whose representatives did not announce their decease to the Society. At the present time the roll stands as follows :

Honorary Fellows—British	.	.	.	12
Foreign	.	.	.	20
			—	32
Ordinary Fellows—Resident	.	.	.	538
Non-resident.	.	.	.	279
Service	.	.	.	11
			—	828
			—	860

It was hoped that a larger number of candidates would have applied for the Service Fellowship, but it takes some time for a new privilege of this kind to become generally known, and it may be considered desirable to take some special steps for announcing to the Members of the Services that the Society welcomes them on terms of special privilege. The interest in the meetings during the past session has been well maintained, and, although there is still room for improvement in the matter of actual attendance, the value of the discussions is evidenced by the reports, which are now printed in the 'Transactions.' The Council appointed a Special Committee to consider what steps might be taken to improve the attendance at meetings, and as a result of this Committee's report, the Council has adopted the following measures, which it trusts will be appreciated and used to their fullest extent by the Fellows :

- (1) Abstracts of the papers to be read will be issued in advance to any Fellows who apply for them, and Fellows who desire it can register their names to receive them regularly by post.

- (2) Authors are invited to supply lists of all persons they think likely to be interested in their papers, including members of the profession who are not Fellows of the Society, and abstracts are also sent to these, with invitations to be present at the meeting.
- (3) The Council has also decided to hold at least one special discussion in each session. The first of these was held yesterday on "The subsequent course and later history of cases of appendicitis after operation," and its undoubted success, both as regards the large attendance and the high quality of the discussion, fully justifies the action of the Council.

The Congress on School Hygiene, held in Nuremberg last year, was attended on behalf of the Society by Sir Lauder Brunton and Dr. Clement Dukes, who were delegated for this purpose, and reported on the work of the Congress to the Council. At the Sanitary Institute Congress, the President of the Society, Sir Richard Douglas Powell, kindly undertook to represent the Society. At the Congress of School Hygiene for this year, held last month, Dr. Clement Dukes was again appointed delegate of the Society, and will report thereon in due course. The War Office, in connection with its special Committee of Inquiry on the subject of Venereal Diseases, invited the Society to assist it by expert evidence. The Council appointed Mr. Edgcombe Venning to represent them for this purpose, and he appeared before the Committee and gave evidence.

It is, perhaps, worthy of mention that our Secretary was specially invited as one of a select few, representing European librarianship, to attend the International Library Conference at St. Louis, but, unfortunately, the condition of Mr. MacAlister's health made it impossible for him to accept the invitation.

The never ending problem of book storage has been solved, for a few years at least, by the construction of a large book store behind the Meeting Room, which will hold at least 10,000 volumes, and the addition of two large bookcases in the corridor. Within the last few weeks, a contract has been entered into for the ventilation

of the North Room and the corridor on the Glover Lyon system.

The Special Report upon Suspended Animation in the Apparently Drowned, drawn up by Professor Schäfer for the Committee appointed to investigate this subject, has been published, and forms a most valuable addition to our knowledge on this difficult subject. It is to be sold to the public at 5s., but can be purchased by Fellows at cost price, viz. 3s. 6d.

Centenary.—Immediately after the last Annual Meeting the Council appointed a special Committee to draw up a programme to arrange for the celebration, in a fitting manner, of the Society's first Centenary. The Committee consists of—

The President.—SIR RICHARD DOUGLAS POWELL.

DR. NEWTON PITT, }
MR. STEPHEN PAGET, } *Hon. Secretaries.*

SIR WILLIAM S. CHURCH, }
MR. WARRINGTON HAWARD, } *Hon. Treasurers.*

MR. ALFRED WILLETT, *Ex-President.*

MR. CLINTON T. DENT.

MR. RICKMAN J. GODLEE.

MR. A. PEARCE GOULD.

DR. NORMAN MOORE.

SIR JAMES REID.

The Fellows have already been briefly informed by circular of some of the proposals of the Committee, but they may be repeated here :

The Issue of a Centenary Volume.—This volume, which is being edited by Dr. Norman Moore and Mr. Stephen Paget, will contain an account of the chief incidents in the history and development of the Society. It will form a substantial volume of about the same size as the 'Transactions,' and will be presented to each Fellow.

A Special Meeting will be held on the Centenary day,

May 22nd, when a special address will be delivered by the President, and he will welcome in the name of the Society the new Honorary Fellows who were elected at the last Ballot, viz. :

Foreign

- Professor H. NOTHNAGEL (Vienna).
 „ W. H. WELCH (Baltimore).
 „ E. MARCHIAFAVA (Rome).
 „ I. P. PAVLOFF (St. Petersburg).
 „ KITASATO (Tokio).
 „ CHR. BOHR (Copenhagen).
 „ S. RAMON Y CAJAL (Madrid).

British

The Right Hon. Baron LISTER, O.M., F.R.S., D.C.L., LL.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.S.

The Right Hon. Baron RAYLEIGH, O.M., F.R.S., D.C.L., LL.D., Sc.D.

Sir WILLIAM RAMSAY, K.C.B., F.R.S., LL.D., D.Sc., F.C.S.

Sir SAMUEL WILKS, Bart., M.D., F.R.S., LL.D., F.R.C.P.

Sir WILLIAM GAIRDNER, K.C.B., M.D., F.R.S., LL.D.

W. H. GASKELL, M.D., F.R.S.

ROBERT BARNES, M.D., F.R.C.P.

The Marshall Hall Prizeman, Dr. Henry Head, will give an address on his recent work, under the title "The Afferent Nerves under a New Aspect," on Tuesday, May 23rd, at 5 p.m., in the Society's Hall.

A Banquet will be held on Monday, May 22nd, at the Hotel Cecil, when the Society will entertain H.R.H. The Prince of Wales and a number of distinguished guests.

A Conversazione will be held on the evening of Wednesday, May 24th.

During the week there will be an Exhibition in the Society's rooms illustrating the progress of medicine in the year 1805.

Report of the Honorary Treasurers :

“The Hon. Treasurers can congratulate the Society on its financial position.

“The past year was the last in which the Society will receive the rent of its former quarters in Berners Street; the net loss owing to the termination of the lease amounting to £436 10s. 5d. It has for some years been a source of anxiety to the Treasurers as to how the Society would bear this diminution of income. Owing to the changes which have been made in our premises, enabling us to let more of our rooms, and other arrangements also proposed and in great measure carried out by our Secretary, the loss of the Berners Street rent has been made good, and a net increase of £320 per annum has during the last two years been secured.

“The receipts during the past year, including a legacy from the late Dr. George Thin of £100, have exceeded the expenditure by £604 15s. 5d.

“W. S. CHURCH.

“WARRINGTON HAWARD.”

Report of the Honorary Librarians :

“The changes affecting the Library Catalogue and the shelf arrangement of the books are nearing completion. The card catalogue is ready and the cards are arranged in the drawers of a cabinet which will shortly be fitted up in the Library to the left of the catalogue desk. The new catalogue will be in working order by the beginning of May, three weeks before the Centenary Celebration.

“The re-numbering of the books is now practically completed, and the transference of the accession number to the new cards is now commencing.

“The room acquired at the back of the Meeting

Room alluded to in the last report has been fitted up with shelves and is now in use.

The number of books and pamphlets added to the Library during 1904 was 615, of these 287 were presented by Fellows and others.

“The number of issues of books, apart from those used for reference purposes in the Library, was 3927, an increase upon the figures of the previous year. The actual number of Fellows and others visiting the Library was 4701, giving an average of 427 per month, in the course of the year of eleven months.

“Three hundred and seventy-six volumes were borrowed from Lewis’s Library, as against 473 in 1903, and 331 in 1902. This is the highest figure that can be reached under the existing subscription for sixty volumes.

“It has been decided to incorporate in the proposed Centenary exhibition a selection from the Library of all books, published in 1805, which it possesses.”

Mr. WARRINGTON HAWARD (Hon. Treasurer) read and explained the Accounts and Balance-sheet.

The PRESIDENT moved that the report of the Council, together with the accounts as audited, be adopted. (Carried unanimously.)

The President then delivered the Annual Address (see p. cvii).

Dr. POLLOCK.—I am sure, gentlemen, I shall only express the feeling of this meeting when I ask you to return thanks to the President for his able and interesting address. He has touched on subjects which I shall not presume to enlarge upon, but a reference caught my ear to the special interest which the public is taking now

in the investigation of disease. I know the President's sentiments on this subject, and it struck me that there could not be a better time than this for the whole of this profession—medical, surgical, and all—to unite together and form one great central body. This is not the time or place to discuss it, but I believe we could not have a more opportune season than now. These investigations into the prevention of disease, such as tuberculosis, and the cause of disease such as cancer, have received notice from the highest authority in the kingdom, and we know well that His Majesty is deeply interested in everything which concerns the health of the community. Perhaps this Society and others will see that this is a good time for uniting all the societies of London, that is the leading societies of medicine, into one body, and so obtain strength for the profession. I have therefore to propose, with your goodwill, that the best thanks of the Society be offered to the President for his address and that he be requested to allow its publication in the 'Transactions.'

SIR WILLIAM H. BROADBENT, K.C.V.O., F.R.S.—I have great pleasure in seconding this motion, and I may add I feel very great pride in following so distinguished a member of our profession as Dr. Pollock. We have all listened to this admirable address with great interest. One element in that interest is the remarkable number of distinguished physicians and surgeons whose memory has been commemorated, and commemorated in such admirable terms that one might almost say that they were fortunate in the opportunity of their death. The President has, very properly I think, made this an occasion for a new attempt at the co-ordination and reorganisation of the medical societies. It has been a question I have long had in my mind, and is a most important matter; and I am quite certain of this, that the occasion is favourable, and that the address we have heard to-day renders it—I was going to say for the first time—possible. It has certainly marked a very distinct advance in what

will be, I believe, a very great addition to the efficiency of the medical societies. The sketch which he has given of the work of a Royal Society of Medicine, the way in which it may be so organised as to promote efficiency and economy and advance, I think, has rendered a very great service to this idea, and I hope it will be carried out during this Centenary period.

Dr. POLLOCK.—Gentlemen, I have to ask you to signify your assent in the usual way.

Carried by acclamation.

Sir THOMAS SMITH.—Might I ask your permission, Mr. President, as we have passed that vote of thanks to you, to say a word about what interests me very greatly, viz., what you drew attention to in the last part of your address to which Dr. Pollock and Sir William Broadbent have alluded? I think I was the victim of the last attempt to combine all these societies in the year 1870 or 1871. Sir George Burroughs was President, and I and my colleague, as Secretaries, worked hard enough, but we accomplished nothing. We found that the jealousies and feelings of the various societies were so strong that it was almost impossible to reconcile them, and the thing dropped, but I agree with what Dr. Pollock said, that things are very different now. The public generally are very interested in medicine, from the Sovereign downwards, and every class of society, and both sexes, share this interest, and I think now is the time when I should hope the plan which you have just sketched out might be undertaken with great prospects of success. I believe that at the present time there would not be the least difficulty in getting a Charter for what might be called either a Royal Society of Medicine or a Royal Academy of Medicine, and if it is the general opinion of this meeting that such a thing were feasible I should be very glad on the present occasion to move a resolution. But it remains to be seen what the feeling of others is.

Mr. GOODSALL.—Mr. President,—Should such a resolution be proposed, I shall be very pleased to second it, if I may be allowed to do so. There are several important points which the profession should take up, and which can be taken up thoroughly only by a large and powerful body. If the suggestion is carried out, I think the interests of the public would be greatly benefited, and I should have much pleasure in seconding such a resolution. But, in so doing, I should state that I do it as an individual, and not as the Treasurer of the Medical Society of London.

Dr. THEODORE WILLIAMS.—One of your suggestions was exceedingly good, sir, and that is, instead of waiting to the end of the year for our ‘Transactions,’ we should have them bit by bit when they are freshest in our minds, and that would be a great gain. If it is possible to reduce the subscription that would be a great thing too. The subscriptions tell on the junior members of the Society, and very likely prevent certain of the junior members joining this great Society, which would be most useful to them. These would be the grounds upon which I should support this idea. I was one of those who voted on the occasion that Sir Thomas Smith alluded to; I voted for the formation of a Royal Society of Medicine, as it was called, and it was almost an accident that it was not carried. It was only a small majority against. And if you, sir, can manage to bring that about, you will cover yourself with undying fame.

Mr. TIMOTHY HOLMES.—Perhaps you will allow me to say a word, as I am a very old member of this Society, and once occupied the chair which you so worthily fill now, to express the pleasure which it has given me to see that this idea has been brought up again, and has been brought up in such a business-like and promising way. This is an idea which has recommended itself to me most strongly, and I was exceedingly sorry on the

occasion to which Sir Thomas Smith has alluded that it was compelled to be dropped, and dropped then, I believe, more on account of the varied opposition which came from the minor societies than from any unwillingness on the part of the two chief societies in this town, that is to say, the Medical Society and our own Society. But, sir, I am not perfectly certain what the resolution before the meeting is.

The PRESIDENT.—Sir Thomas Smith has not given it to me yet.

Sir THOMAS SMITH.—I beg leave to move—

“That the Council of the Society be requested, with as little delay as possible, to invite the leading medical societies of London to arrange for a joint meeting for the purpose of considering the advisability of amalgamating, and to take the necessary preliminary steps for that purpose.”

Mr. GOODSALL.—I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Mr. TIMOTHY HOLMES.—Exactly, sir. That is the very form in which it ought to have been moved, and I am delighted to support it in the very humble way that a man so old can do. I cannot promise to serve on any committee or anything of that kind, but anything I can do to promote the idea I shall do with the utmost possible pleasure, and I congratulate you, sir, on having revived an idea which will, I believe, redound greatly to the profession in London, and which, I believe, will also tend to throw fresh lustre upon the Centenary of this Society.

Dr. ALLCHIN.—I also should like, sir, to be allowed to congratulate you on the feasible and practical manner in which you brought forward this proposal, and also, at the same time, express the very sincere hope that you

will be more successful in carrying it through than has occurred with your predecessors who introduced it. I feel certain that you will be successful in this endeavour, and that your period in office will be more distinguished even than it has already been. It is probable, in regard to the many different societies that might be thought likely to enter into such a scheme as this, that, owing to their differences in origin and constitution and aims, very different arguments are likely to influence them in the course which they would take. You have mentioned two of the important advantages which are likely to accrue from such an arrangement as you foreshadow, economy in finance, and economy in labour and scientific work. Those material arguments would appeal to some societies, no doubt. Others with a long history, such, particularly, as that of the Medical Society, of which you, sir, as I myself, have had the honour to be President in the past—with a long history and prestige attached to it, and, at the same time, in possession of considerable material wealth, are likely to be influenced by somewhat different considerations than those societies of another kind. And I cannot but think that it is the putting forward of those advantages that should occupy the most prominent position in the work which will be started to carry this out, and I think that, under some such arrangement as is indicated, there will be a very considerably enhanced dignity to the whole of the objects of the societies which will enter into it—much more dignified and much more important, and that their work will have much greater power under the amalgamation of those different units than is likely to be the case if they pursue their individual course. Such is the kind of argument, sentimental though it be, which will be likely to appeal to some, and I strongly suggest such arguments as those should be used in seeking to obtain the amalgamation, and they should be put in the forefront of what should be done. I cordially support the proposition of Sir Thomas Smith.

The PRESIDENT.—I will now put the resolution—

“That the Council of the Society be requested, with as little delay as possible, to invite the leading medical societies of London to arrange for a joint meeting for the purpose of considering the advisability of amalgamating, and to take the necessary preliminary steps for that purpose.”

Carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT.—I should like to express my thanks to the Society for the vote of thanks that they have passed to me, and to say that I am very hopeful at all events that we may be able to make a good attempt to bring about this desired result. Of course, we cannot promise more than that.

The scrutineers announced the result of the ballot to be as follows :

President.—Sir Richard Douglas Powell, Bart., K.C.V.O., M.D.

Vice-Presidents.—Sir William Henry Broadbent, Bart., K.C.V.O., M.D., F.R.S.; Thomas Buzzard, M.D.; Henry Trentham Butlin; Alfred Pearce Gould, M.S.

Hon. Treasurers.—Sir William Selby Church, Bart., K.C.B., M.D.; J. Warrington Haward.

Hon. Secretaries.—George Newton Pitt, M.D.; Stephen Paget.

Hon. Librarians.—Norman Moore, M.D.; Rickman J. Godlee, M.S.

Members of Council.—Dawson Williams, M.D.; Howard Henry Tooth, C.M.G., M.D.; George Allan Heron, M.D.; Donald William Charles Hood, M.D., C.V.O.; Sir James Reid, Bart., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., M.D.; Stanley Boyd, B.S.; Clinton Thomas Dent; Arthur Marmaduke Sheild; Charles Stonham, C.M.G.; Thomas Wakley, Junior.

Mr. WILLETT.—Amongst the changes brought about by the result of the ballot, we lose two of the Vice-Presidents. I move, therefore, “That the best thanks of the Society be given to the retiring Vice-Presidents for their services to the Society during their respective terms of office, viz. Dr. H. Charlton Bastian and Dr. W. B. Cheadle.”

Dr. ROBERT L. BOWLES.—I have much pleasure in seconding that resolution. The fact that it has been proposed by Mr. Willett, who was our distinguished President here in the past year, and the names of Dr. Charlton Bastian and Dr. Cheadle, two such distinguished men, is sufficient to ensure that they have done their duty extremely well. They have been valuable Vice-Presidents of our Society, and I have much pleasure in seconding this resolution.

The PRESIDENT.—I feel sure that this resolution will be unanimously carried. One knows how much we owe to the Vice-Presidents for their efforts on the Council.

Carried unanimously.

Dr. ALLCHIN.—I move “that the best thanks of the Society be given to the retiring members of Council for their services to the Society during their respective terms of office: Dr. W. R. Dakin, Dr. T. Colcott Fox, Mr. W. Arbuthnot Lane, Mr. William Lang, Mr. E. J. Spitta.”

Dr. EASTES.—I have very great pleasure in seconding that. I am sure that the work of the Council, especially in connection with the arrangements for the celebration of the Centenary of the foundation of the Society, must have given the Council much more work than usual, and I think, therefore, that in a special manner our thanks are due to them for the work that they have done in the past year.

The PRESIDENT.—I am sure that this vote, too, will be accepted unanimously. I am glad we have not the opportunity of thanking the Honorary Secretaries also for their strenuous labours during the past year, because fortunately neither of them retires this year.

Carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT.—That concludes the business, gentlemen.

(A) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1904

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INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Expenditure		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Rent, Rates, Taxes, and Insurance ...		198	0	2			
Salaries of Staff and Accountant ...		704	5	0			
House Servants, Porters, Cleaners, etc.		352	8	11			
Lighting, Warming, and Cleaning ...		192	2	11			
Printing, Stationery, Stamps and Telegrams ...		251	4	3			
Meeting Expenses ...		43	9	8			
Miscellaneous Disbursements ...		55	4	2			
					1796	15	1
Repairs, Alterations, etc. ...					141	4	2
Depreciation of Furniture, Fittings, etc. ...							
Library Purchases and Expenses ...		490	14	7			
Work on New Catalogue ...		98	2	6			
					588	17	1
Report of Committee on Suspended Animation ...					135	16	11
Interest on Debentures ...					1010	8	3
Benefactors' Memorial Brass ...					12	10	0
'Transactions' ...					401	17	6
Audit Fee ...					10	10	0
Architect's Fees ...					16	16	0
Law Costs ...					26	1	1
Bonus to Secretary ...					52	10	0
Telephone ...					15	17	3
Lift Charges ...					34	17	0
Balance, being excess of Income over Expenditure ...					604	15	5
					£4911	4	9

Income		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
418 Annual Subscriptions at £3 3s.		1316	14	0			
136 do.		142	16	0			
					1459	10	0
Composition Fees ...					23	2	0
Entrance Fees ...					129	3	0
Rents Receivable ...					3057	15	5
Sale of 'Transactions' ...					74	0	11
'Climates and Baths' ...					4	19	2
Interest on New South Wales Stock...					12	11	11
Legacy from the late Dr. George Thin					100	0	0
Miscellaneous Receipts ...					7	6	4
Fees for use of Epidiascope ...		51	7	0			
Less Operator's Fees...		8	11	0			
					42	16	0

24

£4911 4 9

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
	£	s.	d.
3 per Cent. First Mortgage Debentures	33,600	0	0
[The Debenture Debt has been reduced by £100 since the previous statement, by cash paid in respect to Debentures re-deemed.]			
Sundry Creditors	833	10	9
Balance, being Surplus of Assets over Liabilities	29,868	3	8
viz.—			
Balance, 31st December, 1903	£28,968	8	3
Valuation of Epidiascope	160	0	0
Valuation of Stock of Suspended Animation Committee's Report	135	0	0
Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year 1904	604	15	5
	£29,868	3	8
	<hr/>		
	£64,301	14	5
	<hr/>		
Freehold and Leasehold Property	51,566	11	6
Fixtures, Fittings, and Furniture	1,406	0	9
Less 5 per cent. written off for depreciation	62	9	0
	<hr/>		
	1,343	11	9
Engravings	555	0	0
(as per Valuation of Mr. F. B. Daniell, Aug. 19, 1896).			
Contents of Library (as per Balance-sheet, Dec. 31, 1901)	8,792	14	7
Stock of 'Climates and Baths'	320	15	9
Stock of Suspended Animation Committee's Report	135	0	0
Investment—"Permanent Endowment Fund"	326	7	3
(New South Wales 4 per Cent. Inscribed Stock).			
Sundry Debtors for Rents and Outstanding Subscriptions	549	1	4
Cash at Bank and in hand	912	12	3
	<hr/>		
	£64,301	14	5
	<hr/>		

Audited and approved,

NEWSON-SMITH, LORD & MUNDY.

18th January, 1905.

W. SELBY CHURCH, }
 J. WARRINGTON HAWARD, } Hon. Treasurers.

ADDRESS

OF

SIR RICHARD DOUGLAS POWELL, BART.
K.C.V.O., M.D.

PRESIDENT

AT THE

ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 1st, 1905

GENTLEMEN,—The Report that has just been read, including the Treasurers' Report, shows that the Society is flourishing in this its hundredth year of existence, and that notwithstanding the lapse of our lease of the Berners Street house, by which we lose a rental of £450 a year, we have a handsome balance in our favour.

You will note with great satisfaction that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has intimated his intention of honouring the Society by his presence at the Centenary Banquet in May.

The Honorary Librarians' Report is of continued progress and expansion.

Of the 39 Fellows who are reported to have died, only a portion, still too large, have actually died within the twelve months. To their memory I must, as is customary in the President's address, devote a few words.

I recognise that the year upon which we are now entering will be a somewhat anxious and difficult one, as it will also be a very auspicious one, the opening year of a new century of work. I feel that we may safely rely upon the strenuous and loyal endeavours of your Hon. Secretaries, and upon the watchfulness and thoughtful initiative of your Council.

We have also in Mr. MacAlister, our Secretary, who so zealously manages our affairs and carries out the wishes of the Council, not only executive ability but a suggestiveness which in a permanent officer is most valuable. I anticipate, indeed I hope, in the coming year for developments in the constitution of our Society, which if wisely and sympathetically guided cannot fail to help on the great objects with which it was founded, viz. "for the cultivation and promotion of Physic and Surgery and of the branches of Science connected with them." With the strong Fellowship which the Society now presents, with its sound financial position, its able Council and energetic officers the Society should be in good keeping and guidance for any measures the Fellows may decide to take in hand.

In this, the last year of its Centenary, our Society has fairly maintained the high level of preceding years. To give a retrospect of the work of the Society in the past century would be out of place on this occasion, it would involve an account of the history of Medicine during that period. For there are few advances in Medicine or phases of medical thought which have not been foreshadowed or reflected in our transactions. How many great problems, most of them now solved, crowd themselves even within the recollection of my own professional lifetime, as having been initiated or developed at meetings

of this Society; ovariectomy, the antiseptic principle, the open air treatment of Phthisis, the treatment of the apparently drowned, the nature and significance of raised arterial pressures, the clinical use of the thermometer, the exact effects of the digitalis class of drugs upon the heart and arteries, the presence of leucocytosis in suppuration and its clinical value, the surgical treatment of appendicitis, are amongst them. But it is not now that I would deal in retrospect. We are not yet in our Centenary Festival, when a note of jubilation may fittingly be struck over the doings of the past. We have arrived at the eve of a new century of endeavour, and must perforce ask ourselves, Are we content with our present position and outlook? Shall we by continuing on the same lines be doing our best for the Medicine of the next century?

Our finances are flourishing, never more so, and we may justly congratulate ourselves upon our sound position in this respect. Were I the chairman of a financial or business concern, Medicine, Surgery, and Co., I should be content to make the usual flattering comments upon our sound prosperity. But whilst it is our duty to look to the upkeep and business interests of our property, we have behind us a great record to maintain in the promotion of every department of Medicine and Surgery and of the allied Sciences in relation to them. If, therefore, as may well happen, some modifications of our constitution or methods be required to meet the needs of the coming century we should give them our earnest thought. In the course of time the conditions of medical science and of professional life have changed. There has been great development in science, in practice, and in diffusion of knowledge.

Ours is the leading society of medicine enjoying Royal prestige. But many other societies have sprung up which are doing much the same work as we are doing, are catering for much the same papers as we are seeking. These societies—I myself am an original member of one

of the most vigorous of them—were called into existence to supply a want. Let us ask ourselves, did that want arise from any lack of watchfulness on our part or any defect in our adaptability to meet the needs of new developments and progress? We must not allow ourselves in our corporate being to grow old in a hundred years, however well qualified for euthanasia we may as individuals become in half that time. Well, we harbour several of these societies at a rental as tenants; I would ask ought they not rather to be our guests, or better still, ought we not to be of them and they of us? We are all working in harmony with the honest desire to advance our most interesting and beloved calling, but I confess I am inclined to think that the function of this Society, which is concerned with the mere reading of papers, and which it has in common with several other societies, might be usefully modified in some respects. The papers are of value as before, their merit is well sustained, but many to whom I have spoken admit, and it has, I believe, long been felt, that there is a great overlapping of work at many points, and a corresponding waste of force amongst the great central medical societies of London. Many important questions are dealt with in fragments, and there is a great want of co-ordination and economy.

Let me glance for a moment at the point of economy. A number of London men are paying annual subscriptions of from five to seven or nine guineas, besides initial entrance fees, in order that they may belong to societies representing several branches of work. Many others can only join one society when they would like to take a wider range, and we must remember it is the younger men, and often the best men, that are thus shut out; men full of enthusiasm and working power, and with time and opportunities for producing that output of original work that feeds our societies, and advances the front line of medical science. Our magnificent library and fine rooms are open to but a small proportion of these men, on account, mainly, of the large subscription. Yet by combination

the annual subscription admitting to all the central societies of London with library, reading and conversation rooms might perhaps easily come well within the subscription to this Society alone.

Then in point of economy of work; there must nowadays be more numerous divisions in medical and surgical work than 100 or even fifty years ago, but why should there be several departmental societies holding meetings to discuss the same, or much the same, questions and cases? Why should there not be a central Royal Society of Medicine open to all, with sections representing the great divisions of medicine, each section in the enjoyment of its own autonomy, yet co-ordinated with the central body? Would not cases and questions thus be discussed better and before larger and more representative audiences? And, instead of the central body also discussing papers in fortnightly meetings, might it not be more advantageous to have three or four general meetings each year for the full consideration of such larger questions as may from time to time ripen for such treatment in the course of the sectional work? We had a good example of the method I have in mind of dealing with such questions in the discussion on the 'After-consequences of Operations for Appendicitis,' which was introduced by Sir F. Treves last evening.

Again, as regards transactions, if, instead of the costly volumes now annually published by each society, which are placed on our bookshelves to remain there for the most part unopened, the transactions of the different sections were brought out in monthly fasciculi throughout the eight or nine months of the working year, a considerable economy would be effected, and a much more vital interest would attach to them. Perhaps, too, a kind of 'Medico-Chirurgical Review' might once or twice in each year be published, co-ordinating and collating the work of each section so as to review the position of science achieved.

Gentlemen, I have indicated, I trust not too lengthily,

at least one further step by which this Society, in conjunction with others might better carry on the objects of its foundation, viz. by bringing about a Federation of the central societies in London. I am aware that there is nothing new in the idea; it has been already attempted three times, two of the three occasions being within the recollection of many of us. Nevertheless, in my opinion, and in that of many Fellows of this and of other important societies, the present is a very favourable time for making another attempt. I do not think such an amalgamation has ever been thought out fairly on business lines, and I have reason to believe that it would be found to be entirely feasible on such lines. It can only be effected, however, with the full sympathy of all the societies concerned.

I would further say that I am only expressing my own views on this matter, with no mandate from the Council. It is, however, only after a careful consideration of the subject, and some careful inquiries that have been made into its merits, that I have ventured again to raise the question of a possible federation. I must leave to you the decision whether any movement of the kind should be started.

I very sincerely thank you for the kind attention with which you have favoured me.

THE

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT—SIR RICHARD DOUGLAS POWELL,
BART., K.C.V.O., M.D.

CENTENARY MEETING

HELD AT THE SOCIETY'S HOUSE, No. 20, HANOVER
SQUARE, LONDON, W., MONDAY AFTERNOON,
MAY 22ND, 1905.

BEFORE the meeting there was an informal reception by the President and Officers to welcome the Honorary Fellows.

At 5 o'clock the President took the chair, supported on the platform by the ex-Presidents who were able to be present.

The PRESIDENT announced that

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., had signified his willingness to accept the Honorary Fellowship, and

His Royal Highness was unanimously elected.

The PRESIDENT reported that as Lord Lister was not well enough to attend the Centenary Meeting, the officers of the Society had, on the previous Saturday, attended at Lord Lister's house, and in the name of the Society the President had admitted him to the Honorary Fellowship. Lord Lister had desired him to convey his affectionate greetings and congratulations to the Society, and his grateful thanks for the honour they had conferred upon him.

The HON. SECRETARIES introduced to the President the following newly-elected Honorary Fellows :

Professor CHRISTIAN BOHR (of Copenhagen).

Sir WILLIAM RAMSAY, F.R.S.

Dr. ROBERT BARNES.

Dr. W. H. GASKELL, F.R.S.

These signed the Obligation and were formally admitted by the President, who presented each with his diploma.

The PRESIDENT then addressed the meeting.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

GENTLEMEN,—It is naturally expected that the President should address a few congratulatory remarks on the attainment of the hundredth birthday of this great Society. Time only permits me to be very brief, for much has to be done to-day. I will therefore express, on the part of the past Presidents of this Society now living—Mr. T. Holmes, Mr. J. Hutchinson, Dr. W. H. Dickinson, Mr. Thomas Bryant, Dr. F. W. Pavy, and Mr. A. Willett—and on the part of the Council and myself, our most hearty congratulations to the Fellows of the Society on the completion of the hundredth year of its corporate life, and our most cordial welcome in the name of the Society to the distinguished Honorary Fellows and to the guests who honour us with their presence during this centenary celebration. The Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society was founded in 1805 for the purpose of conversation on professional subjects, for the reception of communications, and for the formation of a library. It was an offshoot from the Medical Society, the particular occasion for which could scarcely arise in modern times and from the effects of which that Society soon recovered. In 1808, indeed, showing that no ill-feeling was left behind by the severance, a proposal emanated from our sister, or rather our parent, Society for a reunion to form a new Society of Medicine. It is perhaps to be regretted that the union was not then effected, for a combination of the intellectual

and material forces of the two principal societies in London would doubtless have been for the greater service of Medicine. Might it not still be so? With the experience of the cause of this dissension, however, two very important resolutions were carried at the very first meeting of the Medical and Chirurgical Society under the presidency of Dr. Saunders, resolutions which have been in force ever since, were incorporated in the Royal Charter granted thirty years later, and have been adopted by most of the societies which have since arisen, viz.: (1) "That no gentleman be eligible to the office of president or vice-president for more than two years in succession," and (2) "That a certain number of the Council go out annually." The objects with which the Society was founded have been pursued with vicissitudes of fortune, but with a success which cannot but illumine our centenary retrospect with a glow of triumph and gratification, and which sheds a bright prospective hopefulness and encouragement upon the future of our work. I have here a volume, which has, I hope, reached every Fellow, in which the chronicles of the Society are most interestingly set forth by our honorary secretary, Mr. Stephen Paget, and which also contains a life sketch of each of the fifty Presidents by our honorary librarian, Dr. Norman Moore. It is most instructive reading, and I think the Council has done wisely to sanction the publication of the volume, and the Society is indeed gratefully indebted to the able authors for the labour and interest they have taken in its production. These chronicles and records are indeed an epitomised history of the Medicine and Surgery of the past century, a brilliant and an exhilarating history to read, a history of achievements in medical science with which the records of no previous century can compare. It would be tedious for me even to enumerate the subjects treated of; they are matters of medical history with which you are all very familiar. I would broadly characterise them as dealing in the first half of the century with many and great incidents of medicine and surgery, and

in the second with great developmental movements in pathology and the treatment of disease. Isolated cases and groups of cases of great intrinsic importance and, looking back upon them, of historical interest are brought forward in the earlier, and, indeed, in both, periods—many of them brilliantly suggestive, but not to find place and fulfilment until the larger knowledge and quickened inventions of later times permitted. Amongst such cases and papers I would mention Astley Cooper's ligature of the common carotid artery, Dundas's description of acute rheumatic peri- and endo-carditis, and Abernethy's account of mitral stenosis, all in the first year of the Society's formation. At the time when the Napoleonic wars were raging we were receiving papers on the health of the navy and army from our Fellow and later our President, Sir Gilbert Blane, whose introduction of lime-juice for the prevention of scurvy saved more lives and much more misery than were sacrificed or occasioned in all those cruel encounters. Sir B. Brodie in 1836, by his temperature records of a fatal case of luxation of the cervical vertebræ with destructive hæmorrhage into the upper cord, demonstrates what his earlier experiments of 1811 had led him to believe, and as had been guessed at by John Hunter, that fever was neither a mere matter of altered circulation, as the older physicians had thought, nor of oxidation, as the physiologists after Lavoisier were teaching, but that it was dependent upon some other controlling factor, probably of nervous origin. How otherwise could be explained a rise of temperature to 112° F. in a man dying with respirations reduced to less than six per minute? Here was the earliest use of clinical thermometry, fully to be established twenty-five years later by the careful labours of Wunderlich in Germany and Professor Ringer in this country. The clinical thermometer is now part of the pocket equipment of every nurse, and is to be found in every household, yet I remember when its value was roughly challenged by one of the greatest physicians of the time. It was during Bright's presidency,

in 1838, that Bostock read his paper on the clinical examination of the urine and so initiated an important development of clinical pathology. Dr. Webster's paper, in 1843, on the brutal treatment of the insane then prevailing was the forerunner of the gentler and more humane methods which Conolly so nobly advocated. The paper by Hamilton Roe and Thompson, in 1835, on "Paracentesis for Empyema" (preceded by 14 years by a single case recorded by Dobson), was the beginning of a great advance in thoracic therapeutics. Then we have John Hutchinson on the Spirometer, John Marshall on the Galvano-Cautery, Golding-Bird and Hilton on an Operation for Internal Strangulation in 1846-47, Kirkes on the Detachment of Fibrinous Clots from the Interior of the Heart and their Mixture with the Circulating Fluid, and Spencer Wells's first five cases of Ovariectomy a year or two later. These are amongst the more suggestive of the papers in the first half of the century, every one of which may be said to herald great future achievements in Medicine. The latter half of the century has also had its epoch-making papers. But in the fifty years between 1840 and 1890 there were four great events in medicine which would mark out for distinction any century—viz. Marshall Hall's exposition of the reflex function of the nervous system; the discovery of a safe anæsthesia; the discovery and acceptance of the antiseptic system in surgery; and the growing recognition of the action of bacteria in the etiology and pathology of the acute specific diseases. These four great advancements in medical science crowded into the short space of fifty years have an interdependence that might form the subject of an interesting discourse, upon which, however, I have no intention to enter. This Society has had something to do with them all, and they have permeated and dominated most of its later and most brilliant records. Without anæsthesia, in the absence of antiseptic methods or their more recent aseptic developments, and without a knowledge of bacteriology, no advance in visceral or joint surgery was possible, no further steps for the prevention

of epidemic diseases could be formulated, the explanation of many intricate disorders of digestive and excretory organs was lacking, and their satisfactory treatment was impossible. Most of the initiators of these advances in medical science which have led up to and accomplished such great results are, or have been, Honorary Fellows of the Society. The honoured names, Darwin, Pasteur, Marshall Hall, Villemin, Claude Bernard, Charcot, Lord Lister, Lord Kelvin, Koch, and others still living, are indelibly written upon the pages of science in its beneficent relations to humanity. Many others on our Honorary Fellows' list and amongst the Fellows of our Society are still heartily engaged in pressing on the work. It might not be in good taste to signalise them out, but they are well known to, and honoured by us all. There are other papers not directly connected with these four eventful discoveries which are of great practical and historical importance. Samuel Fenwick's paper on the "Microscopical Examination of the Sputum" and Marcet's paper on the "Inoculation of Sputum in the Diagnosis of Tuberculosis" followed close upon Villemin's discovery of the inoculability of tubercle in 1865, preparing us seventeen years beforehand for Koch's great discovery of the specific poison of that disease. Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson's paper on "Vaccino-Syphilis" in 1871 was of vast and far-reaching public importance. The report of a committee on the "Hypodermic Use of Medicines" in 1867 marked the time, which to some of us may seem almost prehistoric, when the hypodermic syringe was only coming into use. Dr. Ord's paper on "Myxœdema" in 1877 may also be especially mentioned. But the chief work of later years has undoubtedly been the development of visceral and especially of abdominal surgery, the necessary conditions for which did not previously exist. It was within the walls of this Society that Spencer Wells, in 1871, established the operation of ovariectomy, which led up to so many further developments of ovarian and uterine surgery; and that Sir Frederick Treves in 1888 read his first paper on "Relapsing Typhlitis

treated by Operation"; and it was here, too, that the operative treatment of appendicitis was brought up to date by a spirited discussion only a few weeks ago. I think that one of the attributes of our Society which may give us most unbounded satisfaction is the magnificent library we have acquired. Much of this has been due to the liberality of friends in sending us their works and in presenting to us rare books which have come their way. But to the enterprise of the Society and to the lavish expenditure of its scanty funds in former years it is chiefly due that we have perhaps the finest library of medical and scientific works in the world. I am not sure that the censure of our chronicler is all deserved for our illiberality with regard to publication of our proceedings in early years. For at that time the sale of our 'Transactions' was a large source of income provided by the work of our Fellows and wholly expended, not upon themselves, but upon new books for the library. The occasion and the practice have now long since passed. Perhaps the object which the Society had in view at its first foundation second to that of acquiring a library—viz. the conversational discussion of cases and subjects of medical and surgical interest—has been least cultivated, and perhaps amongst the amendments that must come in our proceedings in due time this point may be considered. Whatever future may be before us we can look back upon a vigorous past and a prosperous present. At no time has the position of the Society been better recognised than to-day; at no time has its material prosperity been greater. I would suggest that a grateful thought for the many distinguished men who formed the Councils of our Society in the past and have carried it on to its present prosperity may fitly occupy our minds during this centenary. Nor should we forget the permanent officers of the Society. We may some of us remember the genial courtesy of our late librarian, Mr. Wheatley, who spent the best years of his life at our former house in Berners Street; and to our friend Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister, with his business talent,

wide knowledge, and zeal in the service of the Society, we owe much of our present prosperity, whilst to his great energy and that of his staff of assistants in carrying out the wishes of the Council and Special Committee is due the success which will, I hope, attend the celebrations which we commence to-day.

The PRESIDENT requested Dr. Newton Pitt, Senior Hon. Secretary, to read the numerous telegrams and letters of congratulation which had been received from various societies and institutions.

Professor CHIENE (President of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh) said :

Mr. President and Fellows,—By the unanimous desire of my colleagues in Edinburgh I, as President of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of that city, bring you a message of goodwill. We were founded in your early youth, and we have had one object in common during all these years, namely, the advance of medicine and surgery and the diminution of human suffering. It is therefore surely but right that we should rejoice with you to-day. You refer, sir, in your remarks, to the illustrious men who founded this Society. I, personally, like to think of them as present with us to-day. At the coming of age of anyone it is the grandparents who most rejoice, and I thoroughly believe that the founders and pioneers of this Society rejoice with us to-day. I am certain of this, that they take a lively satisfaction in the robust health of their child. One hundred years to them is but a moment, and they now know that the Temple of Knowledge was being built slowly, that the foundations have only yet been laid, and we have to build up the superstructure. They assure us that we can look forward with confidence to the future, because they tell us that there is no task ever given to men that is impossible of solution. The magnitude of the task is a tonic to us. I

think they will take special satisfaction in the library to which you allude. You spoke truly of that library, as I think, when you said it was the first library in medical science in this country. And if there are any of the Fellows who are younger than myself here I would only say to them, Dig, dig, dig in that library, because there is much there that requires to be rediscovered. These founders, then, being now in the light, send to us individually and collectively, as yet groping in the darkness, this message: "Be faithful to what is true and beautiful and good." Mr. President, long may your Society retain this high place as one of the great searchers out of truth. We are still asking Pilate's question. It is safe in your hands. And when you, sir, hand on the badge of office to your successor it will be said of you that you were guided by the best traditions of this noble Society. Personally, sir, I thank you for having given me this public opportunity of expressing to you the good wishes of your brothers in the North for continued usefulness and prosperity.

Professor Chiene then handed to the President an illuminated address of congratulation.

The PRESIDENT :

I am sure we are all deeply grateful to Professor Chiene for coming this long distance, and for presenting to us this very interesting document of congratulations, which we shall ever treasure amongst our most valued possessions. I beg to thank Professor Chiene for his most eloquent and sympathetic address.

Mr. JOHN LANGTON (President of the Medical Society) :

Mr. President and Gentlemen, as the President of the senior Medical Society of London, I am deputed on behalf of myself and the Council to express to you our cordial congratulations on the Centenary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, and none the less to you also, who so worthily fulfil the office of President of the best traditions in medicine. Among other things to which I

think you incidentally alluded, Mr. President, was a sort of insinuation that there might be a combination or confederation of certain societies, if not of all London societies; and I can only hope, personally speaking, of course, that you may be still President when that wished-for amalgamation or confederation shall take place. That confederation will not be, I think, so much for the good of the older Members and Fellows of the different societies as it will be for the younger, and I hope therefore that in the interests of the younger generation of physicians and surgeons that confederation will soon be a matter of fact.

The PRESIDENT:

I can assure Mr. Langton, the President of the Medical Society, on the part of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, that we greatly value the kind sentiments which he has expressed. Our respect for the Medical Society, as in a sense our founder, is unbounded, and I must also hope that at some time we may again unite our forces.

Dr. FREDERICK TAYLOR (President of the Clinical Society):

Sir, as President of the Clinical Society of London, I have the honour to offer the sincere congratulations of that Society to this that it has attained the hundredth anniversary of its foundation. In its useful and distinguished career during the hundred years of its existence the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society has been the means of bringing before the Profession, and indirectly before the whole civilised world, the most beneficial and important additions to medical knowledge, and there are few of the leading members of the Profession who have not been included amongst its Fellows. No one who has read through the 'Transactions' of the Society, or looked at its numerous volumes or at the 'Proceedings' in which its discussions have been recorded, can fail to recognise the immense value of the contributions and records of work and research which have been made and carried out under

the Society's auspices, and published with their approval. And when one reflects on the fact that all these communications have been submitted to the criticism of your Committee of Reference and your Council before being published, and that their criticism has always been fearlessly exercised, I am sure he will feel and know that the merit of those communications is of the highest order. Of equal, if not more, importance are the advantages to which you, sir, have already referred of your magnificent library; and there are great numbers of writers in London and the British Isles who have availed themselves of the opportunity afforded by that library for the increase of knowledge, and they have enriched it by means of their labours. The Clinical Society cannot lay claim to the seniority which you are celebrating this day in your anniversary; indeed, the Clinical Society is one of the offspring of your Society—not the oldest nor the second in point of age, but still senior to many others. The Clinical Society required a separate existence for the consideration of communications which the venerable traditions of your Society did not make it expedient to include within the limits of their work. We look up to our parent Society, a Society in whose mansions we still have our home, with respect and with affection; and the Clinical Society, I may say, sir, will be second to none in the heartiness of its congratulations and in the sincere desire that it expresses for the success and prosperity of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society.

The PRESIDENT :

I am sure the Society is grateful to the President of our daughter Society—if I may venture to say so—the Clinical Society, of which I myself have the honour of being an original member, for the congratulatory and kind address which we have just heard. Our daughter Society has indeed been prolific in the good things she has done for medicine, and I am sure that we feel highly honoured to be congratulated by so illustrious and vigorous an offspring.

Dr. BOXALL (Hon. Secretary of the Obstetrical Society) :
 On behalf of the Obstetrical Society of London, Mr. President, I have the pleasure to offer its most hearty congratulations to you and to this Society on attaining its centenary. Many of the works which have been included in your 'Transactions,' which are so widely read and generally known, have been from members who have been specially associated with obstetrics and gynæcology, and those who work in the special line dealt with by the Obstetrical Society have always found the greatest benefit from the library which has been collected together by such magnificent work under your auspices. Indeed, without that it would have been scarcely possible for many of these excellent works which have been brought, not only before your Society, but before the Obstetrical Society, to come into existence. On behalf of the Obstetrical Society, I beg to tender our most hearty congratulations on the Centenary.

The PRESIDENT :

I am sure Dr. Boxall will convey to the Obstetrical Society our warmest thanks for their very kind congratulations. I think the Obstetrical Society is one of the oldest societies which holds its meetings under our roof, and we hope they will long continue to do so.

MR. CHARTERS SYMONDS (President of the Laryngological Society) :

Sir, the oldest societies having spoken, I have the honour at the moment to represent one of the newer societies which you shelter under this parental roof—namely, the Laryngological Society of London; and being a somewhat vigorous child, it was thought I might fitly offer to you its own congratulations on attaining the Centenary in addition to those other societies which owe you so deep a debt of gratitude. The subject of laryngology has been more than once instanced before your Society. So long ago as 1826 cases were published here. Czermak showed his laryngoscope in 1862; Durham, an old Guy's surgeon, first demonstrated the use of the laryngoscope

in operative surgery, and Morell Mackenzie showed Babington's laryngoscope. George Johnson also exhibited cases, and showed the value of the laryngoscope before this Society, as did Dr. Thomas Walker, still an active surgeon and laryngologist in Peterborough. You have seen, sir, many smaller societies start from this parent home, some of them showing a life perhaps more active, though not more useful, than the parent Society. And as we look at these various offshoots we must all acknowledge that your Society has lost nothing in dignity and nothing in usefulness. We smaller and more recent societies, I think, owe you a special debt of gratitude; for had it not been for the encouragement given to us by the privilege of meeting in your rooms we should never have been able to develop, and therefore it is that I specially bring to you the thanks and the congratulations of this Laryngological Society, which would never have been able to flourish as it has done if you had not allowed us to meet within your fine buildings. And now, as we enter upon this new period of the Society, we cannot but admire the action of the President, who is foremost in an attempt to unite these various offshoots and gather them into one whole, much as the Mother Country is attempting to unite her colonies. And I trust, as the President of the Medical Society has said, that it may be possible to complete this scheme while you, Sir, hold the chair which has been occupied by so many well-known and distinguished physicians and surgeons.

The PRESIDENT :

I am very much obliged to Mr. Symonds for conveying to us this very kind message from the Laryngological Society, and I can assure him we very greatly value the congratulations of that Society. Whatever future may be before us all with regard to amalgamation or otherwise, I am quite certain of this, that if we do not amalgamate we shall still go on working away as we do now, in the same amicable and friendly manner, for the good of medicine and of all society.

Mr. JONATHAN HUTCHINSON (former President of the Society) :

In virtue of my seniority, gentlemen, an exceedingly agreeable duty devolves upon me this afternoon, and one in which I feel certain I shall have the hearty concurrence of all present. It is that we return our very best thanks to our President for the address which he has been so kind as to give us. I am sure that we have all enjoyed the brief and very judicious summary of the history of the Society which he gave us, and that we have but one regret respecting it, and that is that it was so brief. I propose that we give the President our very best thanks for it, and that we join with it an expression of the wish that he will allow the address to be printed, for we all wish to read it.

Mr. THOMAS BRYANT (a former President of the Society) :

I have great pleasure in seconding the proposition of my friend Mr. Hutchinson.

The resolution was carried by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT :

I am extremely obliged to Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson and Mr. Bryant for the very kind expressions which they have given utterance to, and I regret that I could but give a very brief and sketchy address this afternoon. But I felt that the more important object before us, for which we specially met, was to congratulate our Fellows and also to confer honorary degrees, and I only intervened to say a very few words by way of epitomising some of the work which had been accomplished in the century. Of course I shall have pleasure in putting this very small production into print. I wish especially to draw attention to the very interesting exhibition which is now present in these rooms of rare and valuable mementos, in books, prescriptions, instruments, pictures, and other things, illustrative of medicine at the time of our foundation, which have been collected from many friends of the Society by the kind efforts of the Exhibition Committee of the Council. There is one other

matter. I think the Council feel that it might be a graceful thing if we were to send a telegram of greeting to our absent honorary Fellows, and if that is your pleasure it shall be done.

Agreed.

The PRESIDENT :

Gentlemen, that concludes the business.

CENTENARY BANQUET

Held at the Hotel Cecil, Monday, May 22nd, 1905

SIR RICHARD DOUGLAS POWELL, Bart., K.C.V.O., M.D.,
President, in the chair.

Principal Guest—H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G.

The guests and Fellows present numbered 455.

Before dinner His Royal Highness was received by the President and Council in an ante-room, and after signing the Obligation as an Honorary Fellow, he was admitted in due form by the President.

TOASTS

“THE KING.”

The PRESIDENT: Your Royal Highness, My Lords and Gentlemen, the first toast which is proposed in every assembly of Englishmen is that of His Majesty the King. The King is our Patron, and his honoured name is enrolled in the Fellowship of both the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons. His Majesty has ever shown the deepest solicitude in promoting the happiness of his people, in doing all that is possible for the present to promote the treatment and relief of suffering and disease amongst them. His Majesty, by his genial tactfulness, has lost no opportunity of promoting peace and goodwill amongst nations. Few, perhaps, in this generation know, or can know, all that His Majesty has done in this latter direction. My Lords and Gentlemen, I give you “His Majesty the King.”

“QUEEN ALEXANDRA, THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES,
AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY.”

The PRESIDENT :

I have now the honour to propose the toast of “The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the other members of the Royal House.” The Queen, since she first came amongst us, has won all hearts by the sympathy she has ever shown with all her subjects, with those who are rejoicing, and, still more, with those who are in sorrow or suffering. Her Majesty is not content, however, with an attempt to soothe the sorrow which Fate may bring: she has always exercised her vast influence in mitigating suffering. Almost immediately after the South African war the Queen interested herself in the registration of the Army Nursing Services of this country, and you are aware how eagerly Her Majesty has studied all the details connected with this service, of which Her Majesty is the head. Nor are there any other good works that Her Majesty has not in some way or another done her best to promote. The Prince of Wales, who has honoured us with his presence to-night, from the first took up the arduous duties of his position in a manner which has appealed to all Englishmen. Thoroughness has ever been the watchword of His Royal Highness—a watchword, I fancy, which he learnt on the quarter-deck. Thoroughness is his motto, whether it be in connection with sport or with philanthropy. As a sportsman we all know His Royal Highness to be a crack shot, both on the moors and at the coverts. His Royal Highness has equally the reputation for going straight to the heart of any public matter which he takes in hand. We who are present to-night perhaps best know the work of His Royal Highness as President of the King’s Hospital Fund, which he inherited from his Father, who initiated it; we know the Prince of Wales as President of the Cancer Research Fund; and only those who are working on the committees of those two valuable institutions are aware how keenly His Royal Highness follows and studies everything connected with them, and how he brings his great influence to bear in promoting their work. It was indeed a gracious act on the part of His Royal Highness to accept the Honorary Fellowship of this Society. By doing so he has expressed his approval of the work which we have done in the past century and his sympathy with that work we may have to do hereafter. The Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal Family are ever thoughtful to “render the deeds of mercy,” and to promote in all ways in their power that sympathy between the poor and the rich which they have so many oppor-

tunities of promoting from their high social position. I should like to express the earnest hope of this great assembly that the visit which is shortly to be paid by their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales to India may be most interesting to themselves, as it cannot fail to be of great advantage in bringing into closer touch the sympathies of the Eastern and Western peoples of this great Empire. We wish them a prosperous journey and a safe and happy return. I give you the toast of "Her Majesty the Queen and their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and the other members of the Royal Family."

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES:

My Lords and Gentlemen,—I am greatly touched by the words of Sir Richard Douglas Powell, and in the name of the Queen and the Princess of Wales and the other members of my family, and on my own behalf, I heartily thank him for the sentiments to which he has given expression, and this distinguished assembly for the kind manner in which they have received this toast. I am very happy to be present on this occasion, memorable in the history of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, when we celebrate on the exact date, May 22nd, the anniversary of the day on which this Society was founded just one hundred years ago. I consider it a great honour to have been enrolled among its Honorary Fellows and to be associated with the names of men eminent both in our own nation and in almost every other nation of the world, and I am much pleased to meet some of them here to-night. It is a further satisfaction to me to be identified with a Society with which my family has been connected ever since its incorporation by Royal Charter in 1834. Sir Richard has kindly referred to my position as President of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London. I regard it as a precious trust transmitted to me by the King, its founder, and I shall always endeavour, to the best of my power, to further its work, the gradual but steady development of which I watch with keen interest and satisfaction. For it is my firm conviction that there is no better way in which we can help our poorer brethren than through the healing work and humanising influences of our great hospitals. With regard to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, I am glad to say that we are working in close touch with similar undertakings in other countries. Considerable and valuable results have been attained during the past year, and I trust that we may look forward to the day when medical and surgical knowledge will have unravelled the mysterious cause of this terrible disease and have acquired the power of successfully dealing with it. I must con-

gratulate this famous Society on celebrating the 100th anniversary of its foundation. In spite of its years it is still full of the vigour, enterprise, and enthusiasm of youth. The advances which have been made in the science of medicine and surgery during the last hundred years are almost without a parallel in the history of human progress. During this period physiology has been established as a precise branch of learning, while the new science of bacteriology would seem to have laid bare the very foundations of disease. Antiseptics and the clinical thermometer have been invented, and methods of investigation introduced of which, I am sure, the medical profession of 1805 had never even dreamt. In the foundation of antiseptic surgery by Lord Lister this country can claim one of the greatest achievements in the cause of humanity. In public hygiene nothing short of a revolution has been effected. Our hospitals, which a hundred years ago were little more than mere refuges for the sick, have become institutions in which the most beneficent treatment is carried out with scientific thoroughness. With this great century of progress this Society has, indeed, been actively concerned, and it can look back upon its record of a hundred years with the assurance that it has taken no little share in a memorable scientific advance. Its deliberations can only result in a widening of the capabilities of medicine and surgery, and in a lessening of the mass of human suffering. With it also rests the grave responsibility of passing judgment upon new products and new theories, of directing investigation into right channels, and of keeping a jealous watch upon the scientific reputation of a great profession. I feel confident that the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society will maintain this trust as faithfully in the future as it has done in the past. I heartily wish the Society continued prosperity. Gentlemen, I am most grateful for the cordial welcome you have given me, and I assure you it has given me the greatest possible satisfaction and pleasure to have been present on this memorable occasion.

“THE ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.”

THE PRESIDENT

then proposed the toast of “The Society,” and said: I have already this afternoon touched upon the history of the great Society the centenary of whose existence we are now celebrating; in the chronicles of the Society and the personal records of the fifty Presidents who have presided over its proceedings that history has been most interestingly set forth by Dr. Norman Moore and by Mr. Stephen Paget in the volume which is now in the possession of every Fellow. These

chronicles not only give a faithful account of the difficulties the Society has passed through, and of its growth and mental and moral development through the century to its present ripe and distinguished and vigorous old age, but also very faithfully reflect the history of medicine in the last hundred years. The Society was founded at a meeting of physicians and surgeons one hundred years ago at the Freemasons' Tavern, with Dr. Saunders as its first President, for the purpose of conversation on professional subjects, for the reception of communications, and for the formation of a library. Abernethy, Babington, Blane, Astley Cooper, and others were present. Its field of work rapidly extended to the reading of papers, the receiving of communications for discussion from various parts of the world, and, above all, the accumulation of a library of English books and of foreign literature, in those early days difficult to obtain, bearing upon medicine, surgery, and the associated sciences. Premises were soon required for the meetings of the Fellows, and for the housing of the growing library; and in the year 1834 the Berners Street House was taken, and the Society attained its present position as the premier Society of Medicine, with a Royal Charter granted by His Majesty King William IV, who graciously consented to become its first patron. Since then it has never ceased to enjoy the patronage of the Sovereign, and to-day it has achieved the additional distinction of numbering your Royal Highness amongst its Honorary Fellows. The Society has always regarded the purchase of books as a primary object, and the library now contains more than 50,000 volumes, and its current literature includes the journals and proceedings of every country and learned medical society in the world. Its Fellowship includes the workers in the van of medical and surgical science in the metropolis and the provinces. There has been no advance in medicine that the Society has not been instrumental in promoting. Single cases of immense interest, and, looking back, of great historical importance, have been recorded in the first half of the century; they are as the streaks of light that usher in the dawn of great movements and discoveries in every department of science. To discuss the history of these and other landmarks of medical and surgical advance to which you, Sir, have alluded would be out of place here. The observations of the first half of the century may be said to culminate in three fundamental accessions to our knowledge, momentous and far-reaching in their consequences to the well-being of humanity: (1) The attainment of a safe anæsthesia in the later Forties; (2) the establishment of the antiseptic method in surgical practice; (3) the recognition of the microbic origin of specific diseases. It would be impossible even approximately to count the lives that have been saved, and to estimate the suffering that has been spared by the performance of operations now of

daily occurrence throughout the civilised world, not one of which could have been attempted thirty-five years ago—before our long-time Fellow, and now our Honorary Fellow, Lord Lister, interpreted, extended by elaborate researches, and reduced to terms of surgical procedure the great discovery by Pasteur of the essential rôle played by living organisms in fermentation and decomposition processes. In 1859 pyæmia accounted for 42 per cent. of fatal cases of amputation; its occurrence is now practically unknown in such cases, and death from amputation is almost unknown. Ovariectomy, which in the early days of Spencer Wells was protested against as unjustifiable from its enormous mortality, became within his time a fairly successful operation, owing to his cleanly methods, but still with a mortality in 1871 of 22 per cent. As the antiseptic method developed, however, the mortality fell in 1881 to 4 per cent., and it is now probably less. Numerous abdominal operations, including those for the radical cure of hernia and for appendicitis, have only become possible and safe within this period. I take abdominal surgery as but the type and illustration of the vast progress made in the relief of suffering throughout the world, brought about by the introduction of anæsthesia and antiseptic methods. On the same lines has medicine—and particularly preventive medicine—advanced. We were not acquainted in my student days with the exact nature of a single specific disease—small-pox, glanders, lockjaw, anthrax, diphtheria, cholera, typhoid, consumption, ague, plague, influenza, septicæmia, and the rest were equally obscure to us as regards the exact nature of the poison which gave rise to them. Now we can see projected on the screen the exact portraits of the particular organisms responsible for the majority of these diseases; the habits, food, appetite, degree of virulence, methods of multiplication, and mode of growth of each of these minute organisms are as well known to us as though they were beasts in a menagerie. We are learning to circumvent them as foes, and are beginning to police them as undesirable aliens; nay, we even recognise some of them as friends when restricted to their own proper sphere of activity. I have heard of grumbles at medical fees and at the increased costliness of hospital administration. But when you remember as I do the weeks of illness, with necessary doctor's visits, consequent upon a simple surgical operation thirty years ago, the bottles of medicine and the pints of wine consumed in the long and suffering days and nights of hectic fever spent in hospital or at home whilst the wounds were tardily healing; and when you contrast this suffering and loss with the smarter methods of to-day, dictated by more exact science, under which the most appalling wounds are healed and the patient up and about in a few days, it will be confessed at least that the labour and thought of a century have not been wasted. The average time of healing for a breast amputation

used in my early days to be from six to twelve weeks; it is now from one to three weeks, the bed accommodation in hospitals for such cases being thus increased fourfold. Similarly on the physicians' side whole regions, formerly the pleasure-grounds of the typhus, typhoid, cholera, diphtheria, and ague organisms, know them no more. Consumption is a diminishing, some even think a vanishing, disease; the rates of mortality and the prevalence of illness are steadily falling. And why? Because every doctor is a sanitarian and works loyally with those who organise State medicine for the prevention of disease. Methods of treatment are more precise, and the time seems rapidly approaching when the doctor's occupation will be gone, and he himself can neither live nor die. In a recent letter to the 'Times,' Dr. Ronald Ross, speaking of "another victory against malaria," achieved in one of our possessions in the Malay Straits, quotes the medical officer—Dr. Watson—in charge, who, as an illustration of the decline of fever in the locality, relates one fact which "he cannot help recording, although with less satisfaction, namely, that the fees resulting from his private practice in connection with malarial fever have fallen to zero!" Well, I may truly say that the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society has taken a large share in bending to the service of medicine all the great discoveries in science of the century that have emanated from the fertile brains of Faraday, Darwin, Pasteur, Kelvin, Lister, Koch, and many more. Many of these great men are gone, others are developing and extending their work. I must here again allude to two of the greatest of them at the present time, our Honorary Fellows Lord Lister and Lord Kelvin, whose work has been more far-reaching in beneficence to humanity than any work done within their century, and who perhaps, alone of all men within the century, have lived to enjoy the sweets of immortality. We may be forgiven, then, on this unique occasion—not to be repeated within the lifetime of any one here—a somewhat self-assertive and jubilant note; but in our hearts we are not unmindful of much undone that might have been achieved, of opportunities lost, of adventures unwisely checked; they are recorded in our chronicles. We fully acknowledge the strenuous labours in the same field of others—our sister Societies in the service of humanity. We are humbly mindful of the increasing responsibilities of the next century, and we are solicitous, if it may be, that by the union of forces that now overlap we may advance at a steeper gradient to higher realms of achievement.

“ LITERATURE AND SCIENCE.”

Dr. PYE-SMITH, F.R.S. : Mr. President, Your Royal Highness, My Lords and Gentlemen,—It is my privilege to propose for your

acceptance the toast of "Literature and Science." There has ever been a close connection between the medical profession and literature. In that golden period which intervened between the Wars of the Roses and the Reformation there were four men who directed the new learning and the national education. Their names were Erasmus, Sir Thomas More, Dean Colet, and Linacre. Linacre was the founder of the Royal College of Physicians, and was an eminent Greek scholar. He was followed by Dr. Caius, of Cambridge, and Datchet. In the seventeenth century the medical profession contributed to literature an author of the first rank—Sir Thomas Browne, who wrote 'Religio Medici,' 'Pseudo-doxia Epidemica,' 'The Garden of Cyrus,' and 'Urn Burial.' An eminent physician once said that Sir Thomas Browne was a more important man than his contemporary the great Harvey, because if Harvey had not discovered the circulation of the blood somebody else would certainly have done it, whereas if Browne had not written the 'Religio Medici,' no one else could. In the following century the great literary physician was Arbuthnot, who was the friend of Swift, of Pope, and of Gay. Arbuthnot contributed three of the greatest satires of our own language—'The History of John Bull,' 'The Conduct of the Allies,' and 'The Epitaph of Colonel Charters.' After the death of Arbuthnot, who it was feared died of cirrhosis of the liver, Pope confided the care of his health to the celebrated Dr. Mead, the collector of the finest library of the period, and to the great anatomist and surgeon Cheselden, both of St. Thomas's Hospital. And Pope did what we often wish our patients of the present day would do—he took what Mead and Cheselden advised. Johnson found a friend and physician in Heberden, whom he used to call "Ultimus Romanorum," the last of the learned physicians. Those who read Heberden's commentaries must still be struck with the conciseness of his style, the perfect clearness of his language and the abundance of his good sense. Johnson himself, in his "Lines on the Apothecary, Robert Levett," has portrayed the humble but useful life of the general practitioner, and thereby has proved his title to the name of poet. A medical writer who was also of high literary merit was Sir Thomas Watson. His art in telling cases was remarkable. We still have learned physicians amongst us. There is Dr. Joseph Payne, the Harveian Librarian, and Dr. Norman Moore, who tells sad stories of the deaths of kings. We also have learned surgeons—Mr. Tweedy, the President of the Royal College of Surgeons, Mr. Stephen Paget, and Mr. D'Arcy Power. But though literature is still a relaxation, a refreshment, and a delight to medical men, the art of medicine depends for its progress and its existence upon science. By science we have reached our present position of progress, and by science alone, persistently and ungrudgingly pursued, we shall reach new successes in the pre-

vention and cure of disease. How scientific the whole bent of medicine is we recognise, not only by the broad stream of authors like Harvey, Hunter, Jenner, Bichat, Laennec, Claude Bernard, Chauvaux, Johannes Müller, Ludwig, Pasteur, and Lister, but also by the work of many of our profession who have excelled in other branches of science—men like Gilbert, whose great work on the magnet has been lately published by Professor Sylvanus Thompson; men like Mayow, a young physician who in his short life established the theory of the mechanism of respiration and discovered the existence of oxygen; and also Thomas Young, physician to St. George's Hospital, who established the undulatory theory of light, deciphered the Rosetta stone, and earned the unstinted praise of Helmholtz—a praise, however, which has not been denied him by his own countrymen, as the great German supposed. Science is the very breath of life to medicine, and investigations must continually go on. Encouragement is not wanting, because much has been done towards the prevention of diphtheria, of malaria, and of many tropical diseases since a royal critic asked the question “Why are not preventable diseases prevented?” We all gratefully acknowledge the interpretation given by the eldest son of England to the motto of the Black Prince “Ich Dien,” by serving on the Council of the Association which was formed for the purpose of studying the origin, and in time, it is to be trusted, the prevention, of that terrible disease which is rightly called “malignant.”

SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE: Mr. Chairman, Your Royal Highness, My Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—The fact that I should be chosen to respond to the toast of “Literature” is an illustration of the very familiar rule observed in this country, that it is the understudy who has to do the hard work. I very much wish that Mr. John Morley had taken this task upon himself. I understand, however, that your kindness in coupling my name with the toast is due to the fact that I have the honour to be a medical man. It is true, as some unkind critic has remarked, that in spite of that fact no living patient of mine has ever yet been seen. Gentlemen, without desiring to expand upon the whole field of literature, there is perhaps one little corner upon which I might be permitted to say a word. Some authority has lately been treating the writers of fiction from a legal point of view and examining their law, and has come to the conclusion that the law of the novelist is even, if possible, more strange and more uncertain than that law with which we are familiar. I remember one aphorism, that if a man dies intestate his property goes to the nearest villain. But if the law of the novelist is strange, I think you will admit that his medicine is equally so. We only recognise in my calling, the writing of fiction, certain diseases; the

others are of no use to us. It is a remarkable fact that all these diseases are of the upper part of the body. The novelist never hits below the belt. We have not a lengthy list of ailments, and our treatment is strangely simple. There is, of course, phthisis. I do not know how we should get on with our heroines without it. We sometimes call it a decline, sometimes we call it a wilting away. This is most useful to us, and it ends usually in a complete cure in the second last chapter. The treatment, of course, consists in the bringing back of that great and good man who has been so cruelly misunderstood in Chapter IV. The symptoms of this disease are acute but variable. The most prominent one is extreme wasting, coupled with an almost ethereal beauty. Another disease which is most useful to us is fits. We do not descend to petty details: whether it is an apoplectic or whether it is an epileptic fit which eventually carries off the heavy and stertorous father is a matter which is between ourselves and our conscience. The symptoms as we describe them may belong to either, or to neither, or to both. But suffice it to say, that he falls down in a fit, usually with a pen in his hand, and in front of an unsigned will. The fit is opportune, and it is exceedingly effective. There is then that mysterious malady which is known as brain fever. What should we novelists do without that wonderful fever? What would she nurse him through during that anxious time, and how else could he, after many months of continual delirium, come to himself and proclaim himself a chastened and a better man? The novelist must upon these points deprecate your technical criticism. We have only a little, and we beg you to leave us that. We do not fly to extremes in our literary ailments. The only example which I know to the contrary is gout, which in all our pages only occurs in the ball of the big toe. For some reason it is usually treated as a semi-comic disease, which tends to prove that the novelist has not himself suffered from it. The gouty, irascible gourmand is one of our necessary puppets, and I am sure he has every reason to be irascible if contempt is invited for his very serious and painful malady. As to small ailments, gentlemen, we do not deal in them at all. No one in our pages is ever known to suffer from mumps, or from a sore throat, or from a nettle-rash. If we hit at all, we hit hard, but we are, on the whole, kindly disposed to the medical profession. Our types vary from the village practitioner, whose usual treatment seems to be a hearty slap on the shoulder and a kindly twinkle through his glasses, to that gloomy member of the upper hierarchy who comes down from town at the crisis of the novel, says nothing, shakes his head, and then, with a large fee in his pocket, returns again to the classical precincts of Cavendish Square. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, you will excuse me if I have enlarged upon one little topic connected

with literature. I will not venture to treat the subject at large, but I will only say that if one is somewhat disheartened by seeing that the great trees of our profession have one by one during our days fallen, nevertheless, looking around, one sees that if we have no longer these great oaks, at least there is a considerable quantity of undergrowth and brushwood, and there may here and there be a young sapling pushing its way upwards, which in time may attain some dimensions. When I consider the general history of British literature, there have been many times when things have been quiet, when people have bemoaned the past, but it has invariably occurred that a fresh generation has arisen which has come up to the highest mark of its predecessors, and I cannot doubt that that will occur again.

Sir WILLIAM HUGGINS (President of the Royal Society): Your Royal Highness, My Lords, and Gentlemen,—The honour of responding to the toast of “Science,” which you have so cordially honoured, falls to me as the representative of the Royal Society, which has now for two centuries and a half, with untiring energy and steadfast aim, strenuously pursued the great object for which it was founded—“the improving of natural knowledge.” It is, indeed, not inappropriate that the Royal Society should be in evidence to night, for the connection between the Society and the Medical and Chirurgical professions has always been an intimate one. The College of Physicians smiled upon its birth, and of the original Fellows of the Royal Society, there were many physicians and surgeons. The roll of Fellows has always contained many names of men distinguished in your professions, of whom six have presided over the Society. I will mention only Sir Hans Sloane, Sir Benjamin Brodie, Professor Huxley, and last but not least, my immediate predecessor, that great man who, by the introduction of methods of science into the operating room, at once made comparatively safe operations which had hitherto been followed by very grave risks, and also, at the same time, made possible operations which it had not been thought prudent to attempt—a man whom, not only his own country, but mankind throughout the wide world honours, and to whom they are under lasting obligations—Lord Lister. Happily the time is long past when medicine and surgery were in the hands of illiterates and quacks. Nearly four hundred years ago the College of Physicians, and later the Medical Society, were founded to bring the science of the day to bear upon medical practice; how successfully this object has been carried out the valuable ‘Transactions’ of your Society abundantly testify. Still, even in comparatively modern days the paralysing idea prevailed that the living body was a sort of enchanted ground outside the sway of physical and chemical forces, where, in some mysterious way, vitality reigned supreme,

and was all in all. The wonderful progress, in recent times, of the art of healing followed closely upon the falling down of the walls of the fortress of Vitalism before the challenges of Chemistry, by the making of many substances which had been regarded as only possible by the transcendental processes of a living organism. During the last half-century many distinguished workers, notably on the Continent, have raised physiology and pathology to a place among the exact sciences by the introduction of the accurate methods of physics and chemistry into the clinical laboratories and the schools of medicine. Medicine came completely under the dominion of Science when the principle of the conservation of energy was found to hold in living beings and to determine the connection and sequence of their vital and physical forces and actions. In a word, the discoveries of Science, by bringing into practical medicine an increasing use of physical forces and methods, have largely contributed to the diminution of disease and to the prolongation of life. The great work of Darwin filled the intellectual world with a flood of light, and deposed man from his unique and central position in medicine, and so transformed the whole scheme of biological science. Again, the discovery of the great invisible host of the powers of the air, which make everything we touch and taste a possible Pandora's box full of insidious foes seeking to gain access to the citadel of life, has at the same time placed in our hands new powers of defence. The recent research so successfully carried out by the Royal Society on the mysterious and deadly diseases of tropical countries seems to show that it is in the power of man so to control and guard against the conditions of their propagation as to make it possible for Europeans to live and carry on their work in parts of the earth where hitherto the sacrifice of health, and even of life, has been fearfully great. In the past the power of modern medicine over disease has followed directly upon the improvement of Natural Knowledge; in the future it must be to a still more intimate acquaintance with Nature that we must look for further triumphs over disease and premature death, and so for the securing of a longer and fuller life to man.

“THE GUESTS.”

Mr. BUTLIN : Mr. President, Your Royal Highness, My Lords and Gentlemen,—When I was informed by our Secretary that I was to propose this toast, he was good enough to wish me well through it. He thought it would be a very difficult toast on account of the number and distinction of our guests. I confess that seemed to be an insufficient reason. I own that on one occasion I was seriously embarrassed by this toast, for there

were very few guests, and I could not find one good thing to say of any of them. But how different to-night! Was ever any medical society in this town or in this country so highly favoured as this Society now is? Has any society ever welcomed to its table so many and such distinguished guests? I would like to mention and thank them all by name, but that is impossible, and I must therefore speak in general rather than in personal terms. First, I must speak of our chief guest, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. We are twice indebted to him—for his presence here to-night, and also because he has become an Honorary Fellow of our Society. He is the first Royal Honorary Fellow of this Society, and it has taken us just one hundred years to achieve this honour; and I am sure the time has not been ill spent. His Royal Highness is to be envied in many things; but there is one thing of which we are all envious—that he is better heard in this room than any other speaker. Then there is his Grace the Duke of Northumberland. We are the more pleased to see him because we have no special claim upon his time. And there is my Lord Strathcona, on whom I think many persons would like to have a substantial claim, and Lord Cheylesmore, the Mayor of the Borough in which our house is placed. The House of Commons is so busy with its own affairs, that it has only been able to lend us two members, the Right Hon. John Morley and Sir Walter Foster, and on the latter we have a kind of prior claim. So, too, we have a claim on the representative of the Church, the Bishop of Oxford, for, some thirty years ago, his father was the President of our Society. The law has given us the Lord Chief Justice of England. We have distinguished representatives of science and literature; but where was art in the speech which was made just now? I cannot mention all the other distinguished persons; they are so many. But there is the Chairman of the London County Council; there are representatives of some of the greatest and most liberal of the City Companies; there are the Vice-Chancellor, the Principal and the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of our own University, together with distinguished persons from the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford, Aberdeen, Glasgow, and Trinity College, Dublin. Of course we have the Presidents of our great Royal Colleges. Close by me sits the President of the British Medical Association, and in the distance I see the President of the General Medical Council. In presidents of societies we are wonderfully happy, for we have more than twenty of them, including the President of the Royal Society. Some come from London, some from the provinces, and some even from north of the Tweed—a great compliment. And that leads me to speak of two guests whom I would not on any account omit to mention here: one is from Denmark and the other is from France. Professor Pierre Marie, of Paris,

has been an Honorary Fellow of our Society for some years. He is very fond of England, for this is the second time he has visited us since October. Professor Bohr, of Copenhagen, has been made an Honorary Fellow this day. We accord a hearty welcome to both these gentlemen. I now ask the Fellows to drink the health of our guests; and with that toast I couple the name of His Grace the Duke of Northumberland, who naturally by his position should reply, but who is peculiarly fitted to do so because he is himself a man of science. He is not only a Fellow of the Royal Society, but he is also President of the Royal Institution and, what perhaps appeals still more to us, he is the very active President of the Institute of Sanitary Science. Gentlemen, I give you "Our Guests"; let us wish them long life and good health, and a very small acquaintance with our profession.

THE DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND: I thank the proposer of this toast very heartily in the name of the guests this evening for the kind words which he has used in presenting it to you, and you, gentlemen, for the extremely hearty way in which you have received it. There is one circumstance which strikes me as somewhat curious. There are, as we all know, in this great country four great professions standing at the head of all other professions—the navy, the army, the medical, and the legal professions. We honour them, we respect them, we value them; but we never wish, if we can possibly help it, to avail ourselves of their active services. There is a song which a good many of us used to sing some years ago about the army and the navy:

"We don't want to fight, but, by Jingo, if we do,
We've got the ships, we've got the men,
We've got the money, too."

I confess I feel this evening as if I could sing the same song with somewhat different words:

"We don't want the doctor, but, by Jingo, if we do——"

Well, gentlemen, I will not finish it, and so spare your blushes, but I venture to say we are very well furnished for the fight. But after all, I am not doing justice to these professions, because although in one sense we do not want to avail ourselves of their services, in another sense we do. There is a preventive side to all their energies; we feel safer for the care and the study which they give to the preservation of our interests, and if that side of their exertions is perhaps less known to the world than their showy and observable actions, we are very conscious of the debt we owe to them; and to none of the services do we owe more than to the science, the energy, the devotion, which is expended upon preventive medicine. I do not think,

gentlemen, you will expect me at this late hour to do full justice to the reply which I have to make. It would take far too long. I will only say one word about myself. I was quite overwhelmed when the proposer of this toast spoke of me as a man of science. I began to wonder whether the reflex action of the nervous system, of which your President spoke, meant the alarming sensations I experienced when I heard that. I will only say that, however undeserved such a compliment may be personally, there is not one of your guests who is not full of admiration of the value of those researches which, perhaps in consequence of his own ignorance, he is only able to follow at an immeasurable distance, and that all here present are anxious to aid in every way they can the great work which this Society and your profession have so magnificently discharged in the course of the past hundred years. I thank you once more, gentlemen, for the compliment you have paid me.

“THE PRESIDENT.”

LORD ALVERSTONE (Lord Chief Justice of England): Your Royal Highness, my Lords, and Gentlemen,—I feel very much honoured that you have asked me to submit the last toast, which I shall propose in a few words, namely, that of your President this evening. I shall not at this hour deliver the oration which I had prepared to enable you to appreciate the merits of your President, because I have no doubt you appreciate him without any words from me. Were the hour not so late, inasmuch as this is the first time that a simple lawyer has been allowed to make any observations, I should have been tempted to reply to a few of the remarks of my friend, Sir Sherlock Holmes. He made some invidious comparison between the law of the novelist and the law of the nation. I must say, considering that his speech was delivered in the presence of His Royal Highness, who is very closely connected with the fountain of justice, I thought it rather ill-timed. But a lawyer is a long-suffering animal, and therefore I think it best to pass by any further reference. My Lords and Gentlemen, the occasion on which we meet Sir Richard Douglas Powell to-night is somewhat unique. Previous speakers have referred to the work of this great Society, and have mentioned the changes that have taken place in medical science during its life. It is remarkable that I believe this evening puts upon record also a new coincidence, namely, that the presidency of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society is held by a gentleman who is also the President of the Royal College of Physicians. I feel that the great position which Sir Douglas Powell holds in your profession will render, as I have already said, any words from me altogether

unnecessary. But when we remember the great predecessors in the position or office of President of the Royal College of Physicians, when for a moment one thinks of Sir Thomas Watson and Sir William Jenner, and when we remember that he is merely succeeding a very great man, present to-night, in the person of Sir William Church, I think you will say that the position which your President occupies is one which not only commands your respect, but it will induce you to give to the toast of his health a most hearty welcome. But, if I may be allowed to say so, as one who has crammed up sometimes a little medical knowledge and forgotten it as soon as the necessity for its use passed away, it was extremely interesting to hear that speech of the President to-night touching in such felicitous terms the landmarks of medical science and surgical science during these 100 years. And I cannot help feeling that in one who could expound in such a short time, in such terms, the advance of medical science, we have one fully worthy to represent the medical profession. My Lords and Gentlemen, I would make one personal appeal to the President, as the President of the Royal College of Physicians, and I make it with all the more sincerity because I have no longer a personal interest in the matter. I had the great privilege and honour of being selected, many years ago, as the Counsel of the Royal College of Physicians. It was in my early days at the Bar, and it was a great compliment paid by Sir William Jenner, and I thought my fortune was made and my success secured. I regret to say that the College contented themselves with regarding it as an honorary office, and I never had the honour of appearing for them in any litigation. I do not know what struggling counsel has received that honour at the present time, but I hope, as the legal profession has been spoken of in somewhat slighting terms this evening, Sir Richard Powell will think of it. I might say a great deal about Sir Richard Douglas Powell, of his position, of his great attainments, of his career at the university and in the hospitals, and all that which you in the medical profession know; I therefore content myself with expressing again the great gratification it gives me to be here and to listen to his eloquent speeches. We wish him long life and continued activity, and that he may long live to adorn that profession which he so well serves.

THE PRESIDENT :

Your Royal Highness, Lord Alverstone, my Lords and Gentlemen,—I will not detain you one moment further except to express my very hearty thanks for the very cordial manner in which my health has been proposed. I would only say that I trust this evening has been one of great success. I would express our thanks to the Dinner Committee and the Honorary Secretaries of this Society, and our thanks are greatly due to

the permanent Secretary of our Society, Mr. MacAlister, for his zeal in bringing about the success of this large gathering. I also think the thanks of the Society are due to Mr. Ashbee for the very fine and artistic design which he has made for the honorary diplomas. Our thanks are also very sincerely given to Mr. Bernard Partridge, the son of a former President of our Society, for the very beautiful frontispiece which he has designed for our programme this evening.

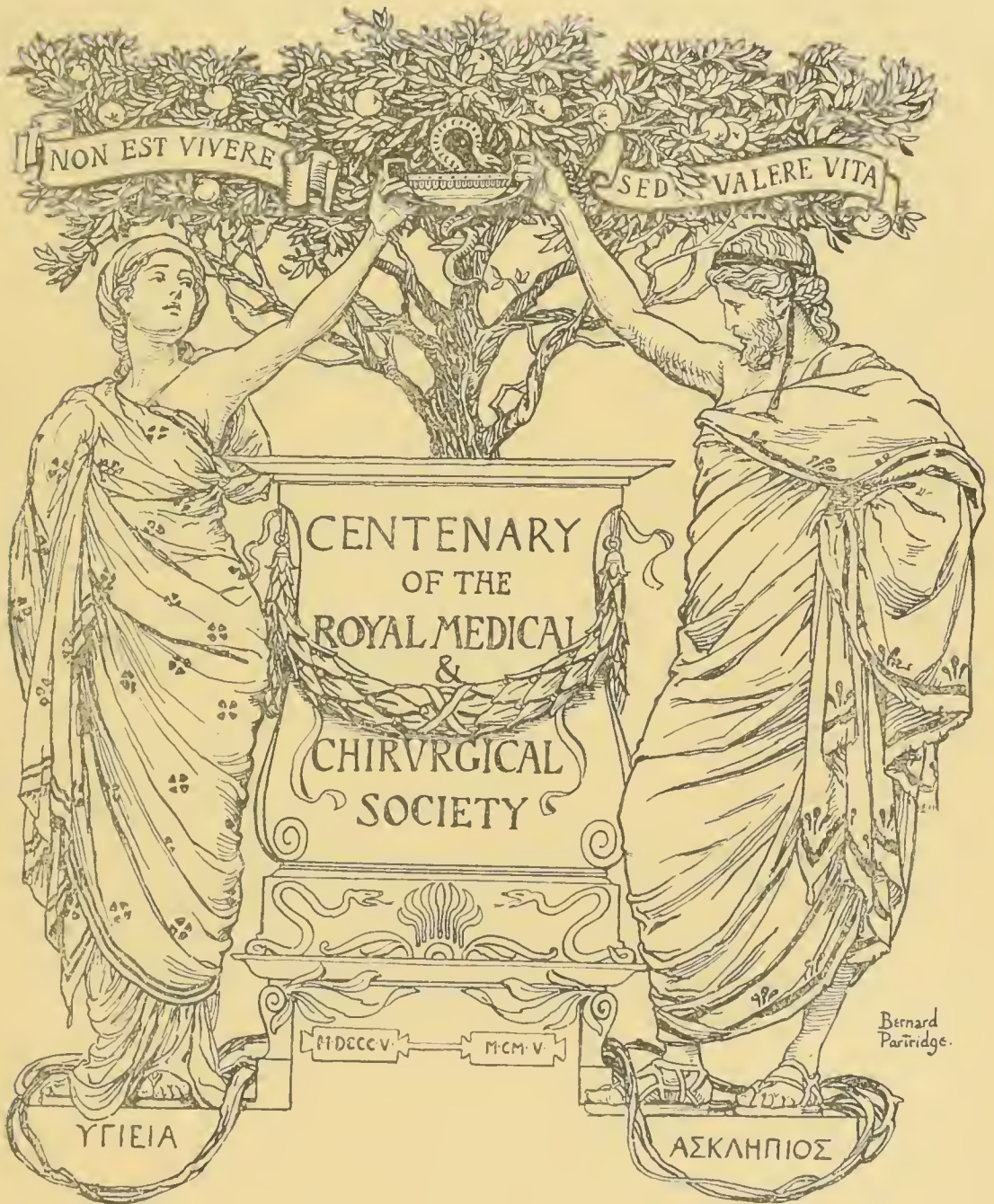
After dinner the President and Council received their guests in an adjoining room—and the guests and officers of the Society were presented to His Royal Highness by the President.

ORDER OF TABLES.

The Fellows and their Guests were seated at eleven tables.

The President, presiding at the High Table, was supported on his right by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and on his left by His Grace the Duke of Northumberland.

At the other tables the Vice-Chairmen were Dr. Buzzard, V.P., Mr. H. T. Butlin, V.P., Mr. Pearce Gould, V.P., Mr. Warrington Haward, *Hon. Treas.*, Mr. Godlee, *Hon. Libr.*, Dr. Newton Pitt, *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. Paget, *Hon. Sec.*, Dr. Donald Hood, *Hon. Sec. Diuner Committee*, Sir James Reid, Bart., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., and Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister, *Secretary of the Society*.



The ROYAL MEDICAL and CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY,
CENTENARY BANQUET, MONDAY, MAY 22nd, 1905.

The President, SIR RICHARD DOUGLAS POWELL, Bart., K.C.V.O.,
in the Chair.

VINS

HOCK

Rupertsberger, 1889

CLARET

Branais-Duluc-Ducru,
1893

CHAMPAGNES

Krug & Co., 1898
Iroy, Carte d'Or, 1892

PORT

Martinez, Vintage 1887

COGNAC

Grande Marque, 1865

Liqueurs and Minerals

MENU

Croûte au Pôt

Truite Saumonée. Sauce Chambord
Salade de Concombres
Blanchailles

Poussin à la Windsor

Selle d'Agneau à la Broche
Pommes Nouvelles. Petits Pois à la Menthe

Caneton d'Aylesbury Rôti au Cresson
Salade de Laitues aux Œufs

Asperges Vertes. Sauce Mousseline

Jambon d'York au Champagne.

Gélée à l'Orange
Macedoine de Fruits

Comtesse Marie Glacées

Dessert

Café

TOAST LIST

“ The King ”

Proposed by THE PRESIDENT

“ Queen Alexandra, the Prince and Princess of Wales and the other Members of the Royal Family ”

Proposed by THE PRESIDENT

“ The Society ”

Proposed by THE PRESIDENT

“ Literature and Science ”

Proposed by DR. PYE-SMITH, F.R.S.

Responded to by SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

SIR WILLIAM HUGGINS, K.C.B., O.M., P.R.S.

“ The Guests ”

Proposed by Mr. HENRY T. BUTLIN, *Vice-President*

Responded to by THE DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND, K.G.

“ The President ”

Proposed by THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE OF ENGLAND

PROGRAMME OF MUSIC

“Bijou” Orchestra

Conductor Mr. J. Pougher

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|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------------------|
| 1. March | ... | ... | “Pomp and Circumstance” | ... | ... | ... | ... <i>Elgar</i> |
| 2. Valse | ... | ... | “Adelen” | ... | ... | ... | ... <i>Strauss</i> |
| 3. March | ... | ... | “Viscount Nelson” | ... | ... | ... | ... <i>Zehle</i> |
| 4. Selection | ... | ... | “Veronique” | ... | ... | ... | ... <i>Messenger</i> |
| 5. Moreceau Mignon | | | “Salut d'Amour” | ... | ... | ... | ... <i>Elgar</i> |
| 6. Two Step | ... | ... | “Dixie Land” | ... | ... | ... | ... <i>Haines</i> |
| 7. Valse | ... | ... | “Gartenlaube” | ... | ... | ... | ... <i>Strauss</i> |
| 8. Selection | ... | ... | “La Bohème” | ... | ... | ... | ... <i>Puccini</i> |
| 9. March | ... | ... | “The Catch of the Season” | ... | ... | ... | ... <i>Haines Baker</i> |
| 10. Valse | ... | ... | “An der Elbe” | ... | ... | ... | ... <i>Strauss</i> |
| 11. Selection | ... | ... | “The Orchid” | ... | ... | ... | ... <i>Caryll</i> |
| 12. Two Step | ... | ... | “Nigger Ailey” | ... | ... | ... | ... <i>Andrews</i> |
| 13. Selections from the Savoy Operas | | | | ... | ... | ... | ... <i>Sullivan</i> |
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GOD SAVE THE KING.

GUESTS OF THE SOCIETY.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.

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| <p><i>Aberdeen Med. Chir. Soc., Pres. of,</i> Dr. G. Rose.</p> <p><i>Aberdeen, Principal of the University of,</i> The Very Rev. J. M. Lang, D.D.</p> <p>Alverstone Lord, G.C.M.G., F.R.S. (<i>The Lord Chief Justice of England</i>).</p> <p><i>Anaesthetists Society, Pres. of,</i> Mr. C. Carter Braine.</p> <p><i>Anatomical Soc., Pres. of,</i> Professor J. Symington.</p> <p><i>Apothecaries Soc., Master of,</i> Mr. A. B. Day.</p> <p><i>Army Medical Service, Director-General,</i> Surgeon - General Keogh, C.B.</p> <p>Mr. Ashbee.</p> <p>Sir Squire Bancroft.</p> <p>Dr. Robert Barnes, <i>Hon. Fellow.</i></p> <p>Professor Christian Bohr, <i>Hon. Fellow.</i></p> <p><i>British Med. Assoc., Pres. of,</i> Dr. Collier.</p> <p><i>Bristol Med. Chir. Soc., Pres. of,</i> Dr. R. Eager.</p> <p><i>The British Medical Journal.</i></p> <p><i>Cambridge, Regius Professor of Physic in Univ. of,</i> Dr. Clifford Allbutt, F.R.S.</p> <p><i>Charity Organization Soc., Sec. of,</i> Mr. C. S. Loch.</p> | <p><i>Clinical Soc., Pres. of,</i> Dr. Frederick Taylor.</p> <p>Sir William Collins.</p> <p>Sir Charles Cust, Bart., C.M.G., M.V.O. (<i>Equerry-in-Waiting on H.R.H.</i>)</p> <p>Professor Sir James Dewar, F.R.S.</p> <p>Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.</p> <p><i>Drapers, Company of, Master of,</i> Mr. J. Tolhurst.</p> <p><i>Dublin, Provost of Trinity College,</i> Anthony Traill; M.D., LL.D.</p> <p><i>Edinburgh Med. Chir. Society, Pres. of,</i> Professor John Chiene, C.B.</p> <p><i>Epidemiological Soc., Pres. of,</i> Dr. Whitelegge.</p> <p>Sir Walter Foster, M.P.</p> <p>Dr. W. H. Gaskell, F.R.S., <i>Hon. Fellow.</i></p> <p><i>General Medical Council, Pres. of,</i> Dr. Donald MacAlister.</p> <p><i>Glasgow Med. Chir. Soc., Pres. of,</i> Dr. David Newman.</p> <p><i>General Register Office, Supt. of Statistics of,</i> Dr. Tatham.</p> |
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- Glasgow, Principal of the University of, The Very Rev. R. H. Story, D.D.*
Gynæcological (Brit.) Soc., Pres. of, Dr. William Alexander.
- Mr. F. G. Hallett, *Sec., Conjoint Examination Board.*
Harveian Soc., Pres., Mr. C. B. Lockwood.
 The Hon. Sydney Holland.
 Sir Constantine Holman.
Hunterian Soc., Pres. of, Dr. F. J. Smith.
- India Office Medical Board, Pres. of, Surg.-Gen. Branfoot, C.I.E., I.M.S.*
Institute of Actuaries, Pres. of, Mr. Henry Cockburn.
- The Lancet.*
Laryngological Soc., Pres. of, Mr. Charters Symonds.
Leeds Med. Soc., Pres. of, Dr. Bronner.
Leicester Med. Soc., Pres. of, Mr. Rothsay Stewart.
 Mr. Samuel Lithgow, *Solicitor to Society.*
Liverpool Med. Inst., Pres. of, Dr. Barr.
London, Vice-Chancellor of the University of, Dr. Pye-Smith, F.R.S.
London, Principal of the University of, Sir Arthur Rücker, F.R.S.
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Royal Coll. of Surgeons, Secy. of, Mr. S. F. Cowell.
Royal Coll. of Surgeons, Librarian of, Mr. Victor Plarr.
Royal Veterinary Coll., Principal of, Professor J. McFadyean.
Royal Institution, Pres. of, The Duke of Northumberland, K.G. (also as Pres. of Royal Sanitary Inst.).
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THE SECRETARY'S OFFICIAL REPORT
UPON THE SOCIETY'S CENTENARY,
MAY 22ND, 1905.

20, HANOVER SQUARE, W.,
May 26th, 1905.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL MEDICAL
AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

GENTLEMEN,

I have great pleasure in reporting to you that the programme prepared by the Centenary Committee and approved by you has been carried out with entire success.

HISTORY OF THE SOCIETY

This volume of 337 pages, the work of Dr. Norman Moore and Mr. Stephen Paget, was delivered to Fellows on Saturday, May 20th, as a fitting introduction to the Centenary programme of the following week. It is perhaps worth mentioning that the entire volume was printed off and bound within seven days. The first plate is a reduced copy of the drawing¹ made for the Banquet Toast List by Mr. Bernard Partridge (son of a former President); the second is a reduction in photogravure of a mezzotint portrait (by L. Abbott) of its first President, from the Society's own collection. The remaining plates, illustrating the various homes of the Society, are from drawings specially made for the purpose.

On Centenary Day, Monday, May 22nd, at 11 a.m., the

EXHIBITION

(of which I submit a catalogue) was opened, and was inspected by a large number of Fellows and visitors.

The Catalogue was necessarily very hastily compiled, as some exhibits were received only two days before opening, and

¹ This original drawing has been framed and suspended in the Corridor.

it was entirely printed off and bound in one day, *viz.*, Saturday, May 20th. It was much appreciated, and I have received many requests for copies since the exhibition closed.

CENTENARY MEETING

At 4.45 p.m. the PRESIDENT received the Honorary Fellows and Fellows, and light refreshments were served.

At 5 p.m. the company entered the Meeting Room; the PRESIDENT took the chair, and invited the ex-Presidents who were present to take seats on the platform.

The PRESIDENT announced that—

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,

had signified his willingness to accept the Honorary Fellowship, and he was forthwith unanimously elected an Honorary Fellow.

The PRESIDENT reported that as Lord Lister was not well enough to attend the Centenary Meeting, the officers of the Society had, on the previous Saturday, attended at Lord Lister's house, and in the name of the Society the President had admitted him to the Honorary Fellowship. Lord Lister had desired him to convey his affectionate greetings and congratulations to the Society, and his grateful thanks for the honour they had conferred upon him.

The HON. SECRETARIES introduced to the President the following newly-elected Honorary Fellows:

PROFESSOR CHRISTIAN BOHR (of Copenhagen).

SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY, F.R.S.

DR. ROBERT BARNES.

DR. W. H. GASKELL, F.R.S.

These signed the obligation and were formally admitted by the President, who presented each with his diploma.

The PRESIDENT delivered an address.

DR. NEWTON PITT (Senior Hon. Secretary) read telegrams and letters of congratulation which had been received.

PROFESSOR CHIENE, President of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh, presented on behalf of that Society a beautifully illuminated address, and in a brief but eloquent speech offered his personal congratulations.

The congratulations of the following societies were also tendered:

The Medical Society of London, by its President, Mr. John Langton.

The Clinical Society of London, by its President, Dr. Frederick Taylor.

The Obstetrical Society of London, by Dr. Robert Boxall

(Hon. Secretary) in the unavoidable absence of the President.

The Laryngological Society of London, by its President, Mr. Charters Symonds.

Mr. JONATHAN HUTCHINSON, the senior ex-President present, moved a cordial vote of thanks to the President for his address, with a request that he would allow it to be printed.

This was seconded by Mr. THOMAS BRYANT (also an ex-President) and carried by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT briefly thanked the meeting, and proposed that a telegram of greeting be sent to the absent Honorary Fellows, and this proposal was unanimously accepted.

BANQUET

This was held in the Hotel Cecil in the evening of Centenary Day.

Before the banquet there was a special meeting of the Council in a room of the hotel, at which His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was introduced by the President.

His Royal Highness signed the Obligation as an Honorary Fellow, and was formally admitted by the President, who then presented him with a specially-bound Diploma of Honorary Fellowship and also a very handsomely bound copy of the Centenary volume.

At 8 o'clock the Council, preceded by His Royal Highness and the President, adjourned to the Banquet Hall.

There were present 457 guests and Fellows. I submit plan of tables and list of those dining, together with copy of menu, for which Mr. Bernard Partridge designed the very beautiful symbolical frontispiece.

After dinner the Prince retired to another room with the Officers and Council, the new Honorary Fellows, and a few others whom he honoured with an invitation, and remained until nearly midnight.

TUESDAY, MAY 23RD.

MARSHALL HALL ADDRESS

The Ordinary Meeting of the Society, which fell on this day, was devoted to the delivery of an address by Dr. Henry Head, F.R.S., the Marshall Hall prizeman of 1903, on

THE AFFERENT NERVES UNDER A NEW ASPECT.

The address was illustrated by numerous diagrams projected by the epidiascope. There was a large attendance of Fellows, Hon. Fellows, and visitors.

After the meeting refreshments were served, and there was an informal reception by the President.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24th.

CONVERSAZIONE

This was held at the Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road.

The President and Lady Powell received the guests from 9.30 onwards, assisted by the Vice-Presidents and other officers and their wives. The Museum was especially illuminated for the occasion, and was beautifully decorated with flowers and palms.

In the Great Hall the Royal Artillery Band played, while in a side gallery the Meister Glee Singers sang through a charming programme. The refreshments were provided by Messrs. Lyons, who appear to have given entire satisfaction.

Upwards of 2,500 persons were present, and the last guests did not leave until after 12 o'clock.

This completed the Centenary Committee's programme, except that, for the sake of those who were too much engaged to visit it earlier in the week, the Exhibition was kept open throughout Thursday, and had numerous visitors.

The special thanks of the Council will doubtless be given to all those who lent objects of interest—some sent from long distances and of great value. All the exhibits were underwritten at Lloyds' and covered for full value (fixed by the exhibitors) during exhibition and transport till safe in the owners' hands.

I have prepared a detailed report of the Centenary Celebration for inclusion in the 'Transactions.'

The accounts are being prepared, and I hope to present a balance-sheet very shortly.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Yours very faithfully,

J. Y. W. MACALISTER,

Secretary.

PROPOSED UNION OF MEDICAL SOCIETIES

AT the Annual Meeting held on March 1st, 1905 (p. lxxxvii), the following resolution, arising out of the President's address, was moved by Sir Thomas Smith, seconded by Mr. Goodsall, and carried unanimously :

That the Council of the Society be requested, with as little delay as possible, to invite the leading medical societies of London to arrange for a joint meeting for the purpose of considering the advisability of amalgamating, and to take the necessary preliminary steps for that purpose.

At the first meeting of the new Council the question was considered, and the following resolutions were passed.

(1) That in the opinion of the Council it is desirable that the President of the Royal College of Physicians be asked to convene a general meeting at the Royal College of Physicians, to consider the proposal for the amalgamation of the chief Medical Societies of London.

(2) That a Committee, consisting of the President, Mr. Warrington Haward, Sir William Broadbent, Mr. Dent, and the Hon. Secretaries, be appointed to consider and report upon questions relating to the meeting, which it has been suggested that the President of the Royal College of Physicians should be asked to summon.

The President of the Royal College of Physicians, Sir William Church, Bart., at once adopted the suggestion of the Council, and by means of letters sent to the

'Lancet' and 'British Medical Journal' convened a meeting to be held in the Royal College of Physicians on Monday, April 10th, 1905.

In order to place on record what has been done to forward the object of the resolution passed at the last Annual Meeting, the following reports are here printed:

REPORT OF MEETING AT ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOCIETIES.

REPORT OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY TO CONSIDER THE FOREGOING REPORT.

UNION OF MEDICAL SOCIETIES

REPORT OF MEETING HELD AT THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, PALL MALL EAST, LONDON, S.W., ON MONDAY, APRIL 10TH, 1905 AT 5 P.M.

CHAIRMAN: SIR WILLIAM CHURCH, BART., K.C.B., M.D.

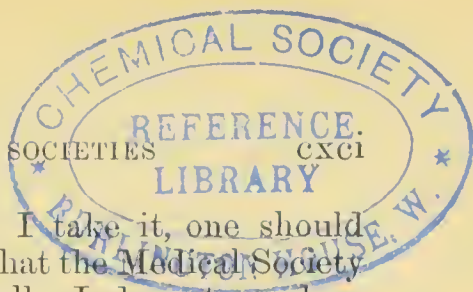
A MEETING, convened by Sir William S. Church, Bart., President of the Royal College of Physicians, and composed of Fellows and Members of the Medical Societies of London, was held at the Royal College of Physicians, on Monday, April 10th 1905, at 5 p.m., Sir William Church in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I do not think there is any need to waste your time in saying what are the objects of this meeting, for we are all acquainted with them; but I think it might, perhaps, be interesting, and also instructive, if I very briefly remind those who are here what has taken place in this direction in former years. It is in the recollection of many of us in this room that an attempt to unite the various medical societies of London has repeatedly been before the medical public, and has hitherto always failed to effect anything, but I certainly was not aware myself, until I looked it up, and was informed about it, that a movement of this sort had been before us so long. As early as the year 1808 the Medical Society approached the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, the only other Society then existing, and requested them to join the Medical Society, so that the two societies should form a fresh one, with a fresh name and with a fresh habitation, and that they should have joint property, which

should be the property of the united societies. That attempt failed owing to there being some doubt, apparently, whether a change of name and a change of place would not invalidate the title which they as societies had to certain properties. Then one can pass to the year 1850, when the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society was approached by the Pathological Society, who asked if the Pathological Society might not be incorporated in the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society. That proposal went off on various minor details. Next, in 1860, there was another serious attempt to join the societies together, which occupied the attention of the medical world of that day for some sixteen months, but in the end all their deliberations came to nothing. It is interesting to note that only a few years later, in 1867, the Medical Society, at the time when Dr. Hare was president, again approached the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, proposing that they should unite and form a single Society, but nothing came of it. Then, of course, it will be in the recollection of some of us in this room that in the year 1870, when Sir George Burrows was President of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, there was a very serious attempt made that the societies should join. Communications between the different societies went on for nearly two years, but again nothing resulted. Still more of us recollect the attempt made by the late Sir Andrew Clarke, in which I do not think the societies got into communication, but Sir Andrew Clarke himself took great interest in the proceedings, and many and frequent meetings were held at his house, not official ones, but unofficial, by men who were interested in the various societies. I do not think, however, that at that time anything like official communication passed between the various societies. You will see that with the exception of the earliest they were all attempts made for one—generally the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society—to absorb into it one or more of the other of the existing societies. Those who have been interested in the movement now taking place thought it would be wise that we should revert to what was evidently the idea when the first amalgamation was proposed in 1808—that is to say, that instead of any one society absorbing another in any way, a new central body, which I will call for convenience sake and speak of in the remarks which I shall have to make as the Royal Society of Medicine, should be established, and that all the existing societies should be regarded as subdivisions or sections of it, so that existing societies should not lose their personal individuality, but should remain as societies embraced in and covered by this larger Society, the Royal Society of Medicine. It will not be possible for me—and I would leave it for others who will address you presently—to say in what way I think this might be accomplished, and I will only put my ideas forward in the most sketchy manner. I think there can be no

doubt whatever that there would be very great advantage to medicine in London and to the profession, if some such society could be established which should embrace the whole of the medical art and the sciences which are affiliated to medical practice. At the present time, owing to the enormous advance in knowledge, and also to the necessity for now making use of special instruments to a very much greater extent than was ever the case before, medicine is necessarily split up into a large number of branches and, rightly enough, all those branches wish to have their own Society to further that portion of medicine in which the members of the Society are specially interested. In this way there does seem to me to be a certain amount of danger that those special subjects may come to be regarded almost as dissociated from what I might call general medicine, and anything that can tend to keep up a close connection such as there is, and certainly should be, between general medicine and the special branches is, I feel sure, in the interest of medicine itself. That is one of the advantages. Then I think another point is that all the component societies would gain in prestige by their being, not merely the Medical Society, the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, or Neurological Society, or Gynæcological Society or whatever little portion of medicine they represent, but a part of the larger body. The Fellows and Associates of the New Society would certainly enjoy, without increased expense, very much greater advantages than it is possible for them to have now. My idea is that there would have to be two grades, Fellows and Associates. Fellows would be those who joined the New Society upon certain financial terms which gave them the right of being present, at all events, at the meetings of all the included Societies, and Associates would be those who preferred merely to remain as members of some of the one or more sections, and who would have certain advantages and privileges in belonging to the New Society, such especially as the use of the library of the New Society, and the use of all the rooms. If any such scheme as is present in one's mind were ever carried out, it would require that there should be much larger accommodation than is at present afforded at Hanover Square under the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society; but there is a capability in those premises for extension and enlargement; so that one could get a larger meeting-room and that there should be attached reading-rooms, smoking-rooms, and tea-rooms, and the premises would be, I think, much more comfortable than at the present moment. The Associates would have certain rights; but what those rights should be, of course, in an opening speech like this, I cannot dwell on, neither have I myself formed an opinion on them. Those are details which must be left to be worked out by any Committee which should

be appointed if we get so far as to appoint a Committee to-day, and they would be worked out by that Committee. Now what societies would be likely to join? We must have some idea as to that before us, and I think one might take as a working basis the societies which, at the present moment, meet at 20, Hanover Square, and 11, Chandos Street, not by any means implying that other societies would be excluded, but one must begin by taking those which occur to one as being likely to come in and join this plan. There is another reason which I might mention, and that is, that with the exception of what I might call the two parent societies, the Medical Society and the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, all the other bodies who meet at these two places are societies representing special branches of medicine. Then there are also two societies for which everybody has, I think, great regard, the Harveian and the Hunterian. I have not mentioned them before because they, like the Medical Society and the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, are general Societies—I mean by the term “general” they both embrace all medicine and the subjects that are allied to it. I think we may treat them in a different way. I do not, by any means, wish to imply that those two, the Harveian and the Hunterian, should be excluded, I only say that they are on a rather different footing than are the other societies which meet in the Medical Society’s and the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society’s rooms. It is no use mincing matters, and I must say that it seems to me that it is essential if any such scheme as the one contemplated is to be carried out, the Medical Society, which is so large, powerful, and strong, must come in and join, and I say so for this reason, that the Medical Society and the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society are the only two medical societies which own any considerable amount of property; and if such a combination as is suggested is made, one must look a good deal to the income which might be received from the property of the Medical Society to assist in maintaining the suggested Royal Society; the income of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, which is now considerably in excess of that of the Medical Society, will not be increased in the same way as the income from the Medical Society’s property will be. I mean by this, if those minor societies that now meet in the Medical Society’s rooms join this new Society, and the Hanover Square premises are enlarged and made suitable for the larger Society, then the property of the Medical Society will be able to be let, and will, I hope, bring in a considerable sum of money; whereas the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society would, on the other hand, have to give up some portion of their income; for they would have to turn out some, if not all, of their non-medical tenants, in order to get the room for the increase of accommodation which would be required there in consequence



of the junction of societies. Therefore, I take it, one should state to this meeting that unless we find that the Medical Society is willing to consider the matter, personally I do not see how you are to provide all the extra accommodation and advantages which I think there would be, and at the same time diminish, as I think can be done, the expense to individual members. I think many men wish to join a good many societies, and wish to have the advantages of a library, such as that of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, and those who join, especially the younger men, would certainly be economically benefited, but without the Medical Society coming in I do not see how they could be. As I say, I only wish briefly to place this scheme before you—all the details and arrangements with regard to the subscriptions to the sections, to the parent Society, the arrangement as to the government of the Society, the Council, and how the Council should be appointed, are necessarily matters for a committee, but I will try to answer any question which may be asked me to-day. I am afraid that the details have not yet been considered sufficiently for it to be desirable to enter into them; they would, I think, have to be left to any committee which is appointed to-day to work out and formulate a scheme which could be laid before the profession at no distant time. Personally I think that there is another very great advantage, in addition to those I have already alluded to, in having a Royal Society with separate sections or subdivisions under its wing. It would be a very great advantage to British medicine that, whilst the separate sections would, of course, receive communications and read and discuss such as they thought proper (it is suggested that all the papers should be published monthly), the parent Society should have a strong Publications Committee, which would every year select from the communications that had been made to the various sections under its wing the most valuable ones. These, when published, would form a most valuable addition year by year to medicine, and be representative of British medicine. I hope I have not detained you too long, but I think I ought, before sitting down, to announce that I have received a great many communications, all of them from men of note. I have received communications from the Presidents of most of the societies that have been mentioned and all of them are favourable to the idea. They, of course, are not all unanimous as to the sort of scheme that should be appointed. There is one very important letter from Sir John Burdon Sanderson, President of the Pathological Society, who says that he was strongly in favour of such a combination of societies being made some years ago, and is still in favour of it, but he urges very strongly that we should go in for a very much larger scheme in which the two principal bodies should be the two Royal Colleges. I have told him that we have never considered his much larger proposal and that I was not prepared to

go into the questions proposed in his letter. I have heard from the President of the Obstetrical Society, also from Mr. Lockwood, President of the Harveian Society, from Dr. Whitehead, of the Epidemiological Society, Dr. Coupland, for a long time Treasurer of the Pathological Society, as well as from several other gentlemen who do not hold official positions in the societies, and all of them hope that something may come out of our meeting to-day. I have also got this telegram which I have not had time to read, which I find says, "Regret I cannot get to meeting to-day," from Mr. Tweedie, President of the Royal College of Surgeons.

SIR FREDERICK TREVES, Bart., G.C.V.O.: Sir William Church and Gentlemen,—In order, sir, that the matter you have so ably introduced to this meeting may be adequately discussed—and discussed, I hope, principally by the younger members of the societies concerned—I venture to move the resolution which appears first upon the agenda:

"That in the opinion of this meeting, convened by the President of the Royal College of Physicians and composed of Fellows and Members of the medical societies of London, it is highly desirable that an effort should be made to unite the principal societies into a new body, to be known as the Royal Society of Medicine."

I will not, sir, take up the time of this meeting by discussing the purpose of this resolution at length, except to point out that such an amalgamation as has been suggested would have obvious advantages in many directions. In the first place, it would have the very great advantage of convenience. I take it to be evident that if all the branches of medicine could be disposed of, so far as the development of their scientific aspects is concerned, under one roof, it would be a convenience, even if the matter be regarded from no higher standard. In the second place, it must obviously be a matter of economy. Each society has its own organisation and management, its own home to provide, and, in some instances, its own library to maintain. The money that is expended on administration only, scattered as the outlay is through so many channels, could be greatly economised if this amalgamation should be carried out. Moreover, I am sure that everyone present will agree with me that if this union of societies should be made practical, it would be certainly to the advantage of medical science. It seems desirable that the science of medicine should be able to face the scientific world as a coherent whole, and that every phase of its work should remain under the general ægis of medicine. This would not be detrimental to any single speciality, and I am perfectly certain that there is no person, no matter what his particular branch of practice may be, who would not be benefited by occasionally attending a meeting on a special subject for which, perhaps, he has no direct concern, but with which he may well have a better

acquaintance. I feel sure that there would follow that closer union in the various elements of medicine which I think is exceedingly desirable, and that there would be given a much stronger position to the science as a science. I imagine, sir, that this amalgamated Society would in no way concern itself with medical politics or ethics, but would be simply and solely for the advancement of the art and science of medicine in the widest and most liberal sense of the term. I imagine that such a scheme as is now proposed is not in any way at variance with the project that filled the mind of the founders of the two oldest societies in this Metropolis, the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society and the Medical Society. I imagine that such a scheme as is now being discussed is but an amplification of that which occupied the minds of those who instituted those old societies. They certainly were intended to embrace the whole of medicine and surgery, and they did embrace the whole of medicine and surgery so far as those sciences existed at that time. If we could get at the spirit which actuated the formation of these institutions, I feel confident that that spirit would be agreeable to such a proposal as is now before this meeting. That such an amalgamation as this must involve sacrifice is inevitable. It certainly involves sacrifice of sentiment. It is scarcely to be supposed that an ancient Society like the Medical Society of London should cede any of its old traditions with a perfectly equable mind. But, sir, we have always been celebrated as a profession for generosity and liberality of mind, and I think that this is an occasion when those two admirable qualities might very advantageously be exercised. I have the honour of proposing the resolution which I have read.

SIR THOMAS SMITH, BART. K.C.V.O. : Mr. President and Gentlemen,—As Sir Frederick Treves has so well said all that is necessary, it falls upon me merely formally to second this motion, and as it is very important that this thing should be thoroughly discussed—and I hope discussed by a large number of the younger members, as Sir Frederick Treves has said—I do not intend to occupy your time by any considerable remarks, but will only say that I honestly believe that an amalgamation such as is proposed would be very greatly to the benefit of all concerned and very greatly to the benefit of science at large. Having been occupied in the year 1870, and for two years with Sir George Burrows, in endeavouring to carry out an amalgamation, I know something of the difficulties and I am certain of this, that if this thing is to be carried through, as I trust it will be, it will require a very considerable, strong majority of the members of the various societies to give their adherence to it, or really it is not worth going into. I beg formally to second the motion proposed by Sir Frederick Treves.

MR. JOHN LANGTON : Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—I wish it

to be distinctly understood that I am simply going to speak my own views, as I am not in any way authorised by the Medical Society, of which I am the President, to attend here as a delegate.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not wish to interrupt, but I thought that I told the meeting that no official communications have passed between myself and any of the societies, therefore we are all speaking to-day our own individual opinions, and we are not in any way representing the opinions of our respective societies, and nothing said here to-day will be taken as representing the feeling of any society. Our discussion to-day is simply that of the profession, and not a discussion of the different views held by the different societies; those we hope to get if we get on further.

Mr. JOHN LANGTON: I wished to make that clear at the beginning, because I think you read letters or stated that you had received letters from the Presidents of other Societies.

The CHAIRMAN: I ought to mention that they wrote only in their individual capacities.

Mr. JOHN LANGTON: The Medical Society, as you have heard from our Chairman, has been on two previous occasions in favour of fusion or amalgamation with the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, and I hope that even now we shall be prepared to join in amalgamation with the other Societies. Although, as I have said, I have not taken my Council into consultation, and still less have I asked any of the Fellows of the Medical Society of London what their views on this subject might be, as the President of the Medical Society, but only speaking as a private member, I desire to say that I am in great measure in accord with what has fallen from Sir Frederick Treves and Sir Thomas Smith. The difficulties, I know, will be great; the fusion means a great deal of giving and very little taking; but, on the whole, I feel sure the amalgamation would be for the progress of medicine and surgery. It is not for each or any of the Societies to say "What shall we get, what shall we lose?" since if it is definitely for the advancement of science, then, I think, it must be for the good of all. I will not detain you any longer, except in so far as to say that as a Fellow of the Medical Society of London I shall do as much as I can to further the aim and the objects of this meeting. I do not know what power I have, but, at any rate, I will do my best, and I think that some of the Fellows, at any rate, will wish for the fusion of the different societies, for it will prevent in some measure the overlapping of work which occurs in the meetings of the various societies for the advancement of the science of surgery and medicine, and especially in those special subjects which have lately been developing and necessitating the formation of different societies, and thus preventing the incompleteness of the contributions and their subsequent dis-

cussion. I will therefore say that if this resolution should be carried I take it that we, as Presidents, shall be asked to present the scheme before our respective societies, when a further meeting will be held to take their decisions into consideration.

Dr. McCANN: Sir William Church and Gentlemen,—You were good enough to say that you would be glad to hear the opinions of some of the junior members of the profession, and as I have been personally interested for some years in this question of the amalgamation of the medical societies, I should just like to say how cordially I am in agreement with the resolution which has been proposed to-day. Speaking as a junior member, I know very well that to join several societies, in addition to being a certain financial strain to some of the struggling members of the profession, is a difficult matter in this way, that it is almost impossible for any man to attend those societies unless he has practically nothing else to do, and this combination of the societies under one roof would not only diminish the expenses of each member, but would tend to economise his time. I hope, however, that at this meeting no attempt will be made to grapple with the details, because it seems to me that if a discussion is started on the details this very valuable proposal may be killed in its inception. I know that the medical mind, from its training, is apt to grapple with details in the first instance, and if it is done in this case I think this, which is an excellent proposal, will be killed at once. There is only one amendment that I should like to suggest to the resolution which has been proposed by Sir Frederick Treves to-day, and that is, that the title should be “The Royal Academy of Medicine,” instead of “The Royal Society of Medicine.” I suggest that for this reason it seems to me that the older societies could more gracefully acquiesce in such a proposal than if we invited them to form another society of medicine. I, therefore, have pleasure in proposing, if I can find a seconder in the room, that the words “Royal Academy of Medicine” be inserted instead of “Royal Society of Medicine.”

THE CHAIRMAN: If I might say so, it appears to me that it would be a pity to tie ourselves down at this meeting to any particular title. I would, therefore, ask the last speaker to withdraw the amendment and to leave it quite open. I merely for the sake of clearness made use of the term “Royal Society” and the name was put down in this resolution, but I think it would be better to leave the question perfectly open as to what should be the title of any parent, or what I might call mother society, to embrace all the others, so that it might be threshed out when we get a little further on.

Dr. McCANN: If that is clearly understood, then I will withdraw my amendment.

Lt.-Col. A. B. R. MYERS: As I was present when this matter was discussed in 1870, I should like to ask you if you would

kindly tell us why, after such a very interesting discussion as took place on the last occasion, when it was generally felt that it would be a great advantage to the medical profession, it suddenly collapsed. Everybody seemed in accordance with many points, although some were raised, undoubtedly, which caused friction; for instance, with regard to the Pathological Society there was a great question about the point of publication. Sir Thomas Smith will remember that another point cropped up in connection with the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, for they distinctly stipulated that the society should not be divided into a medical and chirurgical society, and they claimed that they should remain as they were—a medico-chirurgical. I cannot get hold of the records, but there seems to have been a sudden collapse, and I should imagine that the authorities at that time must have made up their minds, after discussing the details—we have just heard that if we discuss them the whole will collapse—I am afraid that on that occasion when they discussed them the scheme collapsed. It is quite clear that the whole of those in this room are in accordance with this scheme, and hold the view that there should be one general society. Personally, I cannot follow the great advantage that it is said to be pecuniarily; I think there would be a distinct loss, because the younger men all feel, no doubt, that they would derive the great advantage of having to pay so much less subscription; actually they will, but I also think it will be found that one institution alone, such as we have now in Hanover Square, could not possibly manage, because there are only twelve days in a fortnight, and with a great many societies there would not be sufficient days available for each one to hold its meeting on a different day, and it would be found that we should have to have two places, or, at any rate, two meeting-halls, for the purpose. We must not go into details, but I certainly should like to ask you if you would kindly tell us why it was that, after such tremendous support that was given to this idea of combination in 1870, the thing suddenly collapsed.

Dr. C. THEODORE WILLIAMS: I think I can answer that question. Although I did not take much part in it, I was present at the meeting which was held in Berners Street at which the scheme was brought forward, and it was defeated and out-voted. I do not know exactly why it was so, but it was whispered that two of the societies had thought better of it, and there were two leaders certainly who opposed it; one was Sir James Paget and the other Sir Richard Quain; both happened to be presidents of societies, one of the Clinical and the other of the Pathological. I remember the vote on the occasion, and the scheme was not beaten by a large majority, but by quite a small majority. With regard to what you and the others have said, I heartily agree with you as regards the high importance of forming this

society, and the only wonder to me is that it has never been formed before. I think the scheme which has been outlined to the meeting by you is one that would be of great advantage and convenience. From a financial point also it would certainly be a great thing if the junior members of the profession, instead of being mulcted in a large sum of something like ten or eleven guineas a year, could get the whole of the advantages for, I would say, three or four guineas a year, or something of that sort, with an entrance fee. That would save a great many pockets, and I know that a good many of the junior men are very anxious to attend the various Societies' meetings, but at present can only afford to be members of one. A compound subscription would be a great thing; but as I have not had the matter before me in detail I cannot say how it would be managed; but my friend Mr. MacAlister showed me some striking figures, and they would have to be carefully worked out to see whether they would answer financially. I was glad to hear the President of the Medical Society speak as he did, because, of course, that is the Society which one would naturally think would be really opposed to this, as it might be expected to have an idea that the proposal might injure its prestige, and no one would wish that. I am an old Fellow of the Medical Society, and I think that most of its Fellows would cordially come in and join the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society in forming this new Society, because I think we should be brought more together and should work more together in consequence, and I have not the slightest doubt that the cause of medicine would greatly advance thereby. We should be placed more in the position of some of the foreign academies of medicine. We are told not to go into detail, but I can quite see that there may be some sort of difficulty in the matter. For instance, the societies have got various medals to award, all of which would henceforth have to be awarded by the Academy of Medicine, and not by each individual Society. I see that Sir Thomas Smith does not agree with me. All I can say is, that I most heartily welcome the scheme of amalgamation.

Dr. GLOVER LYON: You have, sir, invited the opinions of some of the junior members of the profession, and although I am not young I am at least the youngest that has spoken up to now. I hope others younger than myself will pluck up courage to speak after me. I have just served as Secretary of the Hunterian Society, one of a number of more or less local Societies, which could not be replaced by the proposed Society. Some societies are maintained by local practitioners, and meet so far afield as West Ham. There are many reasons, however, in favour of an amalgamation of the two great central societies. I think the objection as to the size of the building goes a long way. I see Mr. MacAlister here, who for the first time has

put this amalgamation idea into practical shape, and he could tell us more about that than anyone else. There is one other point which I should like to raise for discussion. I see there are twenty-nine specialist societies, and I should like to know what number it is thought would join in this scheme.

Sir RICHARD DOUGLAS POWELL: I did not propose to join in this discussion because I felt that I had already said a good deal about it in another place, and I am only now rising to say that I do not think it has entered into the minds of those who propose this union of societies to do more than effect a sort of union of the central societies of London. In my opinion it would be a disaster to the medicine of London if all the outlying societies were to be merged into one central society. The Northern, Southern, South-Western, and other outlying societies of London are, I consider, invaluable in holding together the practitioners of those neighbourhoods and in encouraging them to work together, and they serve to feed the central societies in due time, when some of those men wish to come forward and to bring some of their work to some central society. I say that I think it would be disastrous, socially and professionally, for those societies to be merged into one single society in London. I think it would be a great pity if those central societies should not be able to combine. Speaking on the point of economy, I should think that roughly, very roughly of course, something like £16,000 a year is spent by medical men upon the central societies of London, and I do not profess to be a business man; but, on a very rough reckoning, I believe that the full, and even a better result might be obtained by an expenditure of something like £12,000 a year, so that if the whole sum has to be expended it seems to me that we might get a great deal more for it, and, on the other hand, we might get at least as much, and I think more, for a much smaller expenditure per annum. I am inclined to think that the reasons why these attempts to amalgamate societies have fallen through hitherto have been very much business reasons, because the matter has not been gone into sufficiently from a business side. I am very much inclined to think that, when the matter has been thoroughly gone into from the business side, it will be found to be quite workable. But there is one thing which is quite essential before we can make any scheme of this kind workable, and that is that we should have the mandate of the mass of those men who are members of the various societies. If they are not fairly universal in their opinion that this matter should be carried through, then it is not worth while our trying to carry it through. If they are of opinion that it would be of distinct advantage to medicine of the present and medicine of the future that this should be carried, then I do not think that there is anything to prevent its being carried through.

Mr. D. H. GOODSALL: I should like to say that I think that the attempt to form a society in 1869 failed somewhat because it was an attempt at absorption. In order to carry out the present scheme I think the interests of all the societies should be given the greatest consideration, so that no society should feel that it had been snuffed out. Then as to the advantages, it seems to me that it cannot be questioned for a moment that a union of all the societies would increase the strength and increase the power with the authorities and increase the good results, I think, to the general public. Then, from an economical point of view, I do not think there is any doubt about it that the money now subscribed will not all be required to do the present quantity of work. There would be one secretary and one place of meeting, and I think that the more it is considered the more we shall see what a great saving in the present expenditure would be gained by an amalgamation, and it would also certainly enable the junior members to join several societies instead of only one.

Dr. HINGSTON FOX: May I make a remark with regard to the Harveian and Hunterian Societies, following on what my friend Dr. Glover Lyon has said. I admit to a certain extent the local element enters into the Harveian and Hunterian Societies, and, in a sense, into the central societies. I hope, therefore, that upon any committee that is formed Fellows of those two societies will be put upon it, in order that their interests and their probable advantages in any amalgamation that may be agreed to will be duly considered.

The CHAIRMAN: I think perhaps I ought in my opening remarks to have told the members present what are the societies which I thought would be first of all considered—those which hold their meetings at Hanover Square and Chandos Street. At Hanover Square there are the Royal Medical and Chirurgical, the Pathological, the Clinical, the Obstetrical, the Balneological and Climatological, the Gynæcological, Anæsthetists, and the Laryngological Societies. Then at the Medical Society in Chandos Street there are the Medical, the Epidemiological, the Ophthalmological, the Otological, the Dermatological, the Neurological Societies. As regards space, there is not sufficient space at the present moment in Hanover Square, but that is one of the things which would have to be considered; there is ample room for a considerable increase of the present accommodation, and it would be a matter of funds and arrangements; probably, if necessary, it would be possible for two societies to meet on the same day. I also said in my opening remarks—I thought I had made it clear, for I endeavoured at all events to make it clear—that those who were interested in this scheme recognised that the Harveian and Hunterian Societies were on rather a different plane to the societies which treated special subjects, and I guarded myself by saying that I trusted that, although I

did not think they were primarily concerned to-day, they would not be excluded from joining or having their claims represented on the Committee.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Sir WILLIAM BROADBENT, Bart., K.C.V.O.: Sir William Church and gentlemen,—The resolution that I have been asked to propose is :

“That the Councils of the Medical Society, Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, Pathological Society, and Clinical Society be severally invited to appoint two delegates to form, with the President of the Royal College of Physicians, the President of the Royal College of Surgeons, and five other gentlemen, a committee which shall (1) make such inquiries as may be necessary, (2) submit a scheme of union to the various societies for their consideration.”

With your permission, sir, I will suggest a slight modification of this resolution, and it is to this effect, that while the Medical Society and the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society as the oldest of the general societies, and as having funds, property, and libraries, should have two representatives on this original committee, instead of the Pathological Society and Clinical Society each having two, they should each have one, and that the Obstetrical Society and the Epidemiological Society should each have one, making the original number of official representatives of societies the same, but working on a representation somewhat larger. That is subject, of course, to the opinion of the meeting. I think it is extremely important that this idea of amalgamating the societies should have had such a send-off as it has had to-day. The difficulties to be encountered are mainly those of detail, the adjustment of the interests and of the sentiment of the different societies, and it will require a great wave of general opinion to carry some of the societies over the difficulties which have proved, hitherto, fatal to success in the carrying out of this idea. Some of those difficulties have already been suggested, and this is not the time or place to go into them, but a great thing, I think, would be to have this committee, which shall make inquiries, and which shall suggest the lines upon which the amalgamation may take place. This is, of course, imperative, and I should hope that the labours of the committee will bring about a scheme which, submitted first to individual societies and then to a general meeting, will bring about the result which we all have so much at heart. It is something more than a mere amalgamation which is proposed; it is, so to speak, a new creation, or evolution, raising the ideal of medical science and of its central organisation to a higher plane. What takes place now is not merely overlapping when the same subjects are discussed at different societies, but that these discussions are from that very overlapping imperfect. When

we have all these different branches co-operating for the same end, when some great subject comes up it would be discussed at a meeting of the great central body, and there would then be elicited the opinion, not merely of those immediately and specially interested in the point in question, but of representatives from every department of medical science. If I might give an illustration, I would say that supposing, for instance, we were discussing puerperal convulsions, which interests primarily, of course, those engaged in obstetrical work, if we had a discussion on a large subject like that brought up, we should have the pathologist, the neurologist, the experimental physiologist, the pathological chemist, and the general physician, and should bring to bear on such a discussion the whole range of medical science and medical practice. And we should thus not merely prevent overlapping, but we should get more efficient and thorough discussion of some of those large general questions. If I might say so, I should myself prefer the words "Royal Academy of Medicine" to "Royal Society." I think that when a young man enters the profession to take up any special subject he would like still to be able to say that he was a member of, say, the Ophthalmological or the Laryngological, or some other special society. It would carry more weight to be a member of a society than to be a member of a branch, and I think that the idea would be to have all societies within a great royal academy. I think in that way we should also be able to invite the co-operation of those local societies of which Sir Douglas Powell spoke so forcibly. It would be the greatest possible misfortune to extinguish or interfere with local societies, and I think that a large central royal academy might even benefit them by bringing them to a better position through their relations with it, and they might send up subjects for discussion to the great central authority. It is of the greatest importance that this committee, when it shall be set up, shall command general confidence, and be thoroughly businesslike, and have a thorough acquaintance with all the difficulties that are likely to beset the path of this great project. The importance of this committee cannot be overlooked. I hope that the constitution suggested—two representatives of the Medical Society, two of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, and one each of the Pathological, Clinical, Obstetrical, and Epidemiological Societies—will form the nucleus, and in addition to those there would be the presidents of the two colleges and five representatives to be chosen for their special qualification for work of this kind. I beg to move that this committee be elected, and that it have the composition intimated in the resolution.

Mr. HERBERT F. WATERHOUSE: I have very great pleasure in seconding the resolution proposed by Sir William Broadbent. I think the unanimity which has been shown by this meeting

as regards the principles of this scheme is most striking. There is practically no dissension; everyone of us here understands that the creation of this great new Society will be for the benefit of scientific medicine in London; and it is very obvious that, as we are all united on the general principle, the only points of difference can be those of detail, and those points of detail will, of course, have to be worked out by the committee. It is, therefore, very obvious that the committee must be carefully chosen, because the members of the committee will have a very great deal of arduous work. There will be a great deal of sentiment to be got over, but when the committee feel that they practically have the whole of this meeting at their back and that this meeting has definitely, and with no uncertain voice, resolved that we are going to have one great new Society created in London, and that no one of the old societies is going to be absorbed or, as a gentleman said, snuffed out, but that we are going to have one new central Institute to further the study of medicine, surgery, and their branches, I am certain that all difficulties will very rapidly melt away. As one of the younger members I can see nothing but benefit that can result. We shall be able to have a library, such a medical library, in this Academy or Institute, as we certainly do not possess at the present moment in London. It will do good in that it will bring members of the profession more into contact, and will bring the members who study different specialities more into touch one with another, and I am confident that the establishment of this Society will be of extraordinary and unlimited benefit to medical study in London, therefore, I most cordially beg to second the resolution proposed by Sir W. Broadbent.

Dr. C. THEODORE WILLIAMS: It occurred to me that those societies who are left out of representation on the committee will not be in very good humour to encourage the scheme. I have been through the twenty-two on the list, and I think it is very properly proposed that the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society and the Medical Society should each have two representatives on the committee, but might we not have one from each of the other societies? Otherwise how can they be represented? How can anyone speak for the Laryngological Society and the Ophthalmological Society if there is no member of these societies present? I know it would be a large committee, but as we are asking a large number of societies to join, the committee must be a large one; I do not see any way out of it. I think it would give rise to very unpleasant feelings if we do not start the matter fairly. I am sure that if I were a member of one of the smaller societies, I should not like to be left out, for I should like to have my say as well as other people. I know it will be a long list, but still it is worth while in order to get perfect harmony.

Mr. LANGTON: I think, as a matter of sentiment, we should endeavour to obtain a representative from each of the other societies. This resolution must go to each of the societies, and I think they should determine by a general meeting of each society the line of action they decide to adopt.

Sir THOMAS SMITH: Might I suggest that if the five other gentlemen mentioned in this resolution were omitted it would reduce the size of the committee somewhat. I see you have put down, besides the other representatives, five other gentlemen. If they were left out you could take in five other societies.

Dr. ARCHIBALD GARROD: Might I point out that there are two societies in this list which stand on quite a different footing to the others in the fact that they possess considerable property. You have said that without their agreement this scheme is impossible. Would it not be better if the Medical Society and the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society were asked to appoint delegates and to invite members of the other societies and come to agreement without introducing any invidious distinction by our inviting others?

Sir FELIX SEMON: Would it not be simpler, sir, for the Medical Society and the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society each to be asked to send two or three delegates, and for the rest of the committee to be formed by the Presidents of all those societies which it is proposed to invite to join the scheme?

Dr. ARCHIBALD GARROD: I think there is a strong feeling that it is necessary that the Medical Society and the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society should first come to an understanding if the scheme is to come to anything. In order to ascertain the feeling of the meeting I will move as an amendment:

“That the Medical Society and the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society be invited to appoint members.”

Sir WILLIAM BROADBENT, Bart., K.C.V.O.: Might I point out that we have already got one amendment before the meeting, and we cannot discuss two at the same time.

Dr. W. EWART: I should be very happy to second this amendment.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not know that I am strictly in order myself, but I will throw out a suggestion that may get over the difficulty of amendment. I think it would be very desirable that we should get a committee that really would work, and would it not be well to appoint, perhaps, a larger committee than was imagined when the agenda were drawn up, and appoint a committee consisting of representatives of all the societies wishing to come in, giving them power to, among themselves, elect a working committee to draw up a scheme? I think that would be the wisest thing we could do to-day, because, at the present moment, we hardly know, although there is such a

general consent in the room, which societies might wish to come in. I think it will be best to appoint a committee consisting of two representatives of the Medical Society, two of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, for they are really the ones that bring in the basis of everything—the money—and one representative to each society that wishes to come in.

Sir WILLIAM BROADBENT, Bart., K.C.V.O.: As the mover of the original resolution I should like to accept that. If I had had the drawing up of the resolution that would have been the direction of my ideas. As you will remember, sir, I suggested a little extension of the one already down.

Mr. H. F. WATERHOUSE: I accept that.

Sir WILLIAM BROADBENT, Bart., K.C.V.O.: While this resolution is being written out might I add one other suggestion, that this committee when appointed should be empowered to invite the co-operation of others not representing societies. It might be desirable to get the co-operation of some thoroughly business men, and it would, I think, add to the efficiency of this committee if they had that power.

The CHAIRMAN: I think that would be in your power, although it would be better, perhaps, that it should be mentioned. There is other work in connection with committee that we might go on to whilst the resolution is being drawn up. It will be necessary that there shall be a secretary appointed, although, of course, it is rather out of order to appoint a secretary before we have passed a resolution appointing a committee, but I just wanted to bring it to your notice, although we can hardly pass it. I am happy to be able to inform you that Dr. Latham has consented, if it is the wish of the meeting, to act as secretary. It is open to anyone to propose any other name, but I thought I would just take the opportunity whilst the resolution is being drawn up to mention Dr. Latham's name.

Sir RICHARD DOUGLAS POWELL: I shall be glad to second that proposition.

The CHAIRMAN: I have now got the resolution placed in my hands. It is—

“That the Council of the Medical Society and the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society be invited to send two delegates, and that the Council of the societies wishing to join the union be invited to form with the Presidents of the two Royal Colleges a committee, with power to add to their number.”

I think that if you would not mind letting me word the resolution after the meeting it would be best.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN: I will now propose that Dr. Latham be asked to act as Secretary. He has already assisted me very

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greatly in this matter, and I am quite sure the Committee could not have a better Secretary than he would make.

Mr. HERBERT S. PENDLEBURY: I second it.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Dr. JOHN FAWCETT: I will not occupy the time of the meeting for many minutes, but the appointment of a committee which has just been agreed to would seem to render it desirable that some date should approximately be fixed at which the Report of that committee could be laid before a General Meeting. With that object in view I venture to suggest that a meeting be called during the early part of July, at which the Report of the committee be submitted for consideration. I have named July because it would give an opportunity to members to discuss the Report before the holiday season commences. I do not know whether I am optimistic, but I venture to think that three months would perhaps allow the committee sufficient time to carry out their investigations. Should a later date be decided upon, it would mean some time during the winter session, and that would delay the whole matter. With regard to the special subject about which I have been talking I have no more to say; but I should like, sir, as one of the junior members, to say that, although I can only speak for myself and one or two others with whom I have discussed the subject, we should heartily welcome a change such as has been suggested. I believe it would be a desirable thing in every way, both from the standpoint of economy and efficiency, and in enhancing the position of the medical societies in London; I hope it may be possible to find means to consolidate and co-ordinate the various interests of the societies concerned, and that this meeting may be the first official step of the present century in the promotion of that object. The resolution I have to propose is, "That a General Meeting of the societies concerned be convened, if possible, in July next, to receive the Report of the committee."

Mr. HERBERT S. PENDLEBURY: Sir, I beg to second the resolution which has just been proposed by Dr. John Fawcett. It seems to me essential that as definite a time as possible should be assigned for the consideration of the report of the committee that we have just appointed, and I am only sorry that the actual date is not put down. Might I suggest that I hope it will be possible to have some little sketch of the committee's results sent round before the actual General Meeting occurs, so that we may be able to criticise it.

The CHAIRMAN: Certainly a Report would be sent round.

Mr. HERBERT S. PENDLEBURY: Speaking for myself as a junior and unofficial member of several societies, I can only say that I am in complete accord with the idea of amalgamation. We have heard doubts expressed as to the financial feasibility of the scheme, and doubts as to the possibility of ultimate

agreement between societies of conflicting interests, but I believe that :

“ . . . Our doubts are traitors,
And make us lose the good we oft might win,
By fearing to attempt.”

The CHAIRMAN : I wish we could have fixed a definite date in July, but it seems almost impossible. I trust by that time, as Mr. Pendlebury has said, that we shall be in a position to circulate a Report amongst the members of the societies which will add very much to the chances of a successful meeting in July.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. ALFRED WILLETT : I should like to move a vote of thanks to you, Sir William, for your admirable conduct in the chair.

Sir FELIX SEMON : I have the greatest pleasure in seconding that.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN : I thank you for your kind expressions, and am particularly pleased this meeting has been so well attended. I hope the interest will be kept up.

The meeting then ended.

UNION OF MEDICAL SOCIETIES

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AS AMENDED AND
ADOPTED AT THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE
OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOCIETIES, HELD
ON JULY 19TH, 1905.*

YOUR Committee beg to report that in accordance with their powers they co-opted Mr. Makins, and appointed Dr. Arthur Latham and Mr. Herbert S. Pendlebury to act as Honorary Secretaries.

We instructed Messrs. Newson-Smith, Lord and Mundy, Chartered Accountants, to investigate the rolls of membership and the accounts of the following societies:

Medical; Royal Medical and Chirurgical; Pathological; Clinical; Obstetrical; Gynæcological; Neurological; Epidemiological; Medico-Psychological; Ophthalmological; Laryngological; Laryngological-Otological-Rhinological Association; Otological; Dermatological of London; Dermatological of Great Britain and Ireland; Society for the Study of Diseases of Children; Odontological; Association of Medical Officers of Insurance Companies; Balneological; Society of Anæsthetists; Electro-Therapeutic; Therapeutical.

The Accountants inform us that the twenty-two societies whose membership lists were collated, have a total membership of 7229, constituted by 4997 persons. Of these, 3725 are members of one society only, and the balance, 1272, are members of more than one society.

The Accountants, upon the figures placed before them by the societies, further inform us that—

The balance of assets (including certain bequests and

* N.B.—This is a reprint of the Report as issued by the Committee, but it also shows the additions and alterations suggested by the Council of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, which are indicated as follows:—Words added are underlined; words deleted are enclosed in square brackets.

trust funds) over liabilities of these societies is more than £40,000.

If 3800 members of societies other than the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society become members at a subscription of £1 1s. per annum, the New Society will have a small balance of income over expenditure. If any members of these societies become Fellows at a subscription of £3 3s. per annum, the balance will be proportionately increased.

This estimate is based on the present income and expenditure of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society together with the present income and expenditure of seventeen other societies as given in subjoined table, and makes no allowance for any economies which may be effected by the Union.

Estimate of INCOME and EXPENDITURE of the proposed Royal Society if housed at 20, Hanover Square, on basis of Income and Expenditure of existing eighteen Societies for the year ending December 31st 1904:

EXPENDITURE.				INCOME.			
Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society	...	...	£4307	Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society	...	...	£4911
Loss of rent by Union	...	...	770				
<i>Of other seventeen Societies.</i>				<i>Of other seventeen Societies.</i>			
'Transactions,' less sales, but without allowance for income by advertisements	...	...	2545	Rent of Medical Society	...	...	940
Staff	...	...	650	Investments	...	...	350
Library and Museum	...	...	166	Interest from investment of present cash balance	...	...	50
Interest on obligation	...	...	121	Entrance fees	...	...	186
Stationery, miscellaneous and exceptional expenditure	...	...	1670	3800 subscriptions at £1 1s.	...	...	3990*
Balance	...	...	198				
			£10,427				£10,427

* The actual amount received last year from subscriptions by these seventeen Societies was £5033.

N.B.—It is to be remembered that the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society has a Debenture Debt of £33,000 which must be paid off or provided for in 1939. On the other hand, its assets are valued at upwards of £60,000.

In view of the facts that 3525 persons already subscribe £1 1s. to these eighteen societies per annum, that 1272 pay from £2 2s. upwards, and that under the proposed scheme many individuals who are not Fellows of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society would become Fellows of the Royal Society of Medicine at an annual subscription of £3 3s., your Committee consider that the New Society would have a sufficient balance of income over expenditure to provide for improvements and for any sinking fund rendered necessary by extensions to 20, Hanover Square, supposing that all the scheduled societies joined.

This is shown more clearly from the following estimate of subscriptions which may be received from members of the various societies who are not Fellows of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society :

*600 members of societies as Fellows at £3 3s.	£1890
3200 members at £1 1s.	3360
Library subscriptions at £1 1s., say	525
	£5775

If this £5775 replaces the conservative estimate of

* The estimate of 600 is arrived at as follows:—The latest figures supplied by the accountants show that 1300 individuals pay £2 2s. upwards in annual subscriptions.

[751 individuals belong to 2 societies.

300	„	„	3	„
134	„	„	4	„
72	„	„	5	„
31	„	„	6	„
5	„	„	7	„
6	„	„	8	„
1	„	„	9	„

The number of Fellows of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society who pay £3 3s. per annum is 440; of these, 390 are members of one or more other societies. If we deduct 390 from 1300 we have left 910 as the number of individuals—apart from Fellows of the R.M.C.S. who pay £3 3s.—who belong to more than one society. The Committee suggest that probably 600 of these would become Fellows of the New Society at an annual subscription of £3 3s.

£3990 from subscriptions in the foregoing estimate of income and expenditure, the estimated annual balance of £198 becomes £1983.

We cannot obtain further information as to the financial practicability of the scheme until we know exactly which societies have definitely decided to join the proposed Royal Society.

Your Committee suggest that every member of the societies which amalgamate shall have the option of joining the New Society, subject to the rules of the said Society, without entrance fee, and that as far as possible members of these societies shall retain their present privileges in the New Society. For example, any Fellow of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society who has compounded for his subscription will be entitled to join the Royal Society of Medicine as a Fellow without further payment of any kind, and a member of any society who has compounded for his subscription will be entitled to join the corresponding section of the Royal Society of Medicine without further payment.

Your Committee consider that the following suggestions might be embodied in a scheme for the formation of the **New Society**, namely, that:

1. The New Society shall be called the Royal Society of Medicine [or the Royal Academy of Medicine, according to the vote of the societies concerned.]

2. All monies, books, premises, and other properties belonging to any of the societies which join the proposed union shall become the property of the New Society, and shall be vested in the Fellows.

3. The Society shall be housed at 20, Hanover Square.

Increased accommodation, if required, can be obtained by extending the premises, and by the absorption of certain rooms now occupied by tenants of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society.

4. [The Society shall meet four or more times a year to discuss subjects of medical and scientific interest.]

The Fellows of the Society shall meet annually for the election of Officers and other business: and four or more times a year for the election of Fellows and for such other business as may be desired by the Council.

*5. The Society shall consist of the following sections with power to add new sections, or to modify existing ones with the consent of the members:

1. Anæsthetic.
2. Clinical.
3. Dermatological.
4. Diseases of Children.
5. Epidemiological.
6. Laryngological, Otological, and Rhinological.
7. Medical.
8. Mental Medicine (Psychiatry).
9. Neurological.
10. Obstetrical and Gynæcological.
11. Odontological.
12. Ophthalmological.
13. Pathological.
14. State Medicine.
15. Surgical.
16. Therapeutical, including General Therapeutics, Pharmacology, Electro-therapeutics, Balneology, and Climatology.

It is hoped that in the early future an Anatomical and Physiological Section may be formed.

6. The Society shall consist of Fellows, Members, Honorary Fellows, and Honorary Members.

7. The Fellowship of the Society shall be restricted to men who are registered medical practitioners of the British

* N.B.—The Council of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society are of opinion that it would be premature at the present time to discuss the list of Sections of the new Society.

Empire, and to men whose scientific attainments are satisfactory to the General Council.

7a. The Election of Fellows shall be on the same lines as are at present followed in the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society.

8. A Fellow shall pay, subject to any future bye-law, an annual subscription of £3 3s., and shall have the right to attend all meetings of the Society or of any of its sections, and shall have full use of the Library. After the Society is constituted (*i. e.* after a date to be subsequently determined) a new Fellow shall pay an Entrance Fee of £2 2s.

9. Each section shall have the power to elect as members of the Society such persons as the Council of the Section may think fit, provided that the names of the candidates proposed for election be previously submitted [by the Sectional Council to the Council of the Society for their approval] to the Council of the Society and approved by them.

10. A member of any particular Section shall pay, subject to any future bye-law, £1 1s. per annum, and shall have the right to attend all the meetings of his Section, but must pay an additional £1 1s. per annum if he wishes to have the use of the Library, and a further subscription of 10s. 6d. per annum for each additional Section.

11. The general management of the Society shall be under the control of a General Council, consisting of the President, the Presidents of the various Sections, two Treasurers, two Librarians, two Secretaries, and eight other Fellows. The Members of Council, with the exception of the Presidents of the Sections (who are to be *ex-officio* members) shall be elected by the Fellows.

12. The entire management of the funds of the Society shall be in the hands of a Finance Committee, subject to and acting as a Sub-Committee of the General Council.

13. In order to enable existing societies to retain their individuality as far as possible, each Section shall have

power to make the necessary laws and regulations for the conduct of its business.

14. The Presidents of Sections shall be *ex officio* Vice-Presidents of the Society, and shall serve on the General Council of the Society.

15. In the estimate on page ccviii provision has been made for a monthly publication (July, August, and September excepted), to be called 'The Proceedings of the Royal Society of Medicine.' This publication will be under the control of an Editorial Committee, and will contain a record of the work of each Section during the previous month. By such prompt publication the value of the records will be greatly increased.

In addition, the Committee will select, subject to the approval of the General Council, such papers as they may consider worthy of publication in the 'Transactions' of the Society.

The Committee further *suggest* that it would be to the advantage of the Royal Society if a Committee were formed of representatives of the various sections, charged with the duty of receiving all papers to be read before the Society or its Sections. This Committee should have power to decide before which Section any given paper should be read, and to decide whether other Sections or the whole Society should be asked to join in the discussion. Authors of papers should have the privilege of suggesting the Section or Sections before which they wished to read their papers.

It is hoped greatly to increase the value of the present Library at 20 Hanover Square, and to provide an additional reading-room for the use of Fellows and Members.

Your Committee ask the various Societies concerned to consider the scheme submitted *at an early date* and to inform the Honorary Secretaries of their views. As soon

as the Committee is in possession of these views further steps can be taken.

In conclusion your Committee beg to express the unanimous opinion that the Union of Medical Societies will do much to enhance the prestige of British Medicine, that it will increase the value of the work at present carried out by existing societies, and that it will be to the great convenience of the Medical Profession.

(Signed) W. S. CHURCH, *Chairman.*

R. DOUGLAS POWELL.

HENRY HEAD.

JOHN LANGTON.

DAVID H. GOODSALL.

G. H. MAKINS.

CHARTERS J. SYMONDS.

ARTHUR LATHAM,

HERBERT S. PENDLEBURY,

} *Honorary*
} *Secretaries*

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UNION OF MEDICAL SOCIETIES

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT

THE SOCIETY'S HOUSE, 20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.,
ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD, 1905, AT 5 O'CLOCK, P.M.

SIR RICHARD DOUGLAS POWELL, Bart., K.C.V.O., M.D.,
President, in the Chair.

G. NEWTON PITT, M.D., }
STEPHEN PAGET, } Hon. Secs.

Present—159 Fellows, and the Secretary.

The PRESIDENT called upon Dr. Newton Pitt (Hon. Secretary) to read the notice convening the meeting, which was as follows :

20, HANOVER SQUARE;

November 14th, 1905.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London will be held at 20, Hanover Square, on Thursday, the Twenty-third day of November instant, at Five o'clock in the afternoon, for the following purpose, viz. to consider the accompanying "*Report on the Union of Medical Societies as amended and adopted at the Meeting of the General Committee of Representatives of the Societies held on July 19, 1905,*" and, if approved, to pass the following resolutions :

- 1, That the "*Report on the Union of Medical Societies as amended and adopted at the Meeting of the General Committee of Representatives of the Societies held on July 19, 1905,*" be and is hereby approved and

adopted, subject to the modifications recommended by the Council of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, and that the Council be and is hereby instructed to endeavour, in negotiating with the General Committee of Representatives of the Societies, to secure the adoption of all those modifications.

- 2, That the Council be and is hereby authorised to take all such steps and proceedings and to do such acts and things as the Council, in its discretion, shall consider necessary or expedient for carrying into effect the amalgamation of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society with all or any sufficient number (at the discretion of the Council) of the Societies named in the "*Report on the Union of Medical Societies as amended and adopted at the Meeting of the General Committee of Representatives of the Societies held on July 19, 1905,*" or with any other Society or Societies, either in accordance with the scheme set forth in the Report (subject or not as the Council shall think fit to the modifications recommended by the Council or to such (if any) other modifications, amendments, or alterations as the Council in its discretion shall consider necessary or expedient), or in accordance with such other scheme as the Council in its discretion shall think advisable.

A copy of the Report referred to above is enclosed herewith. The print as it stands in black ink is the Report originally approved by the General Committee of Representatives; the modifications and amendments shown in red ink¹ are those recommended by the Council of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society.

(Signed) RICHARD DOUGLAS POWELL, *President*.
 G. NEWTON PITT, } *Hon. Secretaries*.
 STEPHEN PAGET, }
 J. Y. W. MACALISTER, *Secretary*.

The PRESIDENT.—Gentlemen, you all have in your hands, I think, the Report which we have met to discuss this evening. The object of our meeting is to consider this Report, with certain emendations, which you will observe are marked in red ink,¹ and to approve of it or otherwise. If approved

¹ In the Report, as printed in this volume, underlining and square brackets are used instead of red ink to indicate alterations.

you are asked to instruct the Council of the Society to proceed further in the matter. Perhaps I may be allowed very briefly to recapitulate the chief points with regard to the history of this movement, so that we may know exactly where we are; and I would first of all point out, as I think it is important we should bear this in mind, that this Society now occupies a stronger position, both as regards its finance and the number of its Fellows, than it has at any time during the 100 years which have elapsed since its foundation. It has, as the centenary volume records, taken a large share in advancing the science of medicine and in extending and testing new methods of medical and surgical practice. It has seemed to many Fellows, however, that a larger scheme is needed than that on which the Society was founded 100 years ago, in order fully to embrace the whole domain of medicine, and to advance the special branches which have developed in the growth of medical science, whilst at the same time keeping them in firm and wholesome union with the great principles of medicine. A greater adaptability in former years might perhaps have met the needs of new development and progress, and have avoided the necessity for the creation of so many new societies. All these societies are engaged in the output of admirable work. But it is certain that the expense of doing so is very great, that several societies are engaged in discussing practically the same questions at meetings sometimes simultaneously and often scantily attended. With a view to remedy this it was unanimously resolved at the last annual meeting of this Society,

“That the Council of the Society be requested, with as little delay as possible, to invite the leading medical societies of London to arrange for a joint meeting for the purpose of considering the advisability of amalgamating, and to take the necessary preliminary steps for that purpose.”

At the next meeting of your Council a resolution was adopted requesting the President of the Royal College of

Physicians to convene a general meeting of the members of the London medical societies for the purpose of considering the question of union. At this meeting the proposal to amalgamate the central societies was cordially accepted, and a committee of delegates from the various societies was formed, which, after many sittings, has drawn up the Report which is now before you. This Report has been under the careful consideration of your Council, and with certain modifications of variable importance it has been approved. A copy of the Report has been circulated amongst the Fellows of the Society showing the modifications of the Council printed in red. The object of the present general meeting of the Society is not so much to criticise this scheme clause by clause as to express general approval of it or otherwise, as a basis upon which this Society would desire the process of amalgamation to go forward. Possibly each society will send in to the committee of delegates a similarly annotated report and express its approval or otherwise of the general scheme, and its willingness or otherwise to go forward with it. There must then be a final meeting of all the societies. It is impossible, and it would be unprofitable, to discuss minute details. But I would point out that the financial side of the scheme has been pretty fully set out under expert direction, and on the moderate basis of success assumed it would appear to be very sound. It must be here noted that this Society is indebted to certain debenture-holders among its Fellows, and that this debt forms a first mortgage charge upon the property of the Society, and this liability must be fully safeguarded in any change that may occur. This being fully seen to, the debenture-holders will probably be satisfied to remain in possession of debentures which they originally took from a loyal feeling towards the Society. Other liabilities of other societies will of course have to be equally secured. It is to be hoped that a large proportion of the constituents of the new Society will join as Fellows. This will be so if the matter is taken up with that degree of warmth

and enthusiasm that has hitherto been shown with regard to it. The question as to the number of sections into which the subject of medicine should be divided must in great measure depend upon the number of societies that join. The Council has only ventured to express a general opinion on this point, for it is felt that it must stand over for discussion and decision by the delegates from all the societies who agree to join. It is obvious that the combined library of the new Society would be much larger and more valuable than our present library, large and valuable as that library is, and that its accommodation and convenience would be enhanced, and this is a point which will be jealously watched by this Society, "the formation of a library" being one of the primary objects of its original foundation, and a main object of its solicitude during the 100 years of its existence. Another main feature of the new Society will be, it is hoped, the full and punctual publication monthly of the transactions of each section. This will require careful organisation, and, in the opinion of your Council, will need the services of a paid editorial staff. Finally, it is to be hoped that in the new Society steps will be taken to secure a larger amount of social or conversational interchange of ideas amongst its Fellows and Members, and thus carry out one of the ideas in the minds of the founders of our own Society, "the affording an opportunity for an easy and agreeable exchange of practical knowledge." With those preliminary remarks I would point out that, if the first resolution be accepted, the second will follow almost as a matter of course, as it is merely defining in technical and somewhat involved phraseology the powers required by the Council to carry your wishes into effect. I have no doubt the main discussion will arise upon the first resolution, and I will ask Sir William Church if he will commence the discussion by moving it. Before doing so I think the Hon. Secretaries have to mention the names of some gentlemen who would have been here but have been prevented from coming.

Dr. NEWTON PITT (Hon. Secretary) read a number of letters from Fellows who expressed their regret that they could not be present, all of them expressing their approval of the Council's proposals.

Sir WILLIAM CHURCH.—Mr. President and Gentlemen,—In obedience to your wishes I rise to move the first resolution, although I cannot but feel that it would have been better if this resolution had been allocated to one who was not so closely identified with the matter in hand as I am myself. That being the case, the remarks I shall make this evening will be very few, and I would like to reserve any further observations that I may make, as I think it is possible I may be asked some questions in the course of the discussion which will follow. Therefore I will now very briefly move the first resolution. Before doing so formally I would like to say that I have gathered, both from what I heard an afternoon or two ago at the Clinical Society and also from what I hear generally, that there is some misapprehension with regard to this scheme which is placed before you. Some have thought that it was a scheme for amalgamating the Societies. Of course that was the business of the Executive Committee appointed at the meeting of the General Committee of Representatives. What the Committee had to do was to investigate and see whether it was possible, from financial and other reasons, for amalgamation to take place. That is treated of in the first part of this scheme which is laid before you, and a very great deal of time and labour was gone through by that Committee, and I think I may say that they were satisfied that it was feasible somewhat on the lines laid down. We endeavoured to give such information as we could to show what were the resources of the existing Societies who were likely to join. Until we know what Societies are going to join together it is impossible to go into financial details more closely than they have been gone into in this Report. Another misapprehension which I found was in the minds of some was the idea that the scheme was that all medical societies in the metropolitan

district, and even in the provinces, should be affiliated to this new amalgamated body. Now, those of us who initiated this movement had never that idea in our minds. We only thought that what you might call the home societies, that is to say those that meet in this house and those which meet in the Medical Society's premises might be amalgamated together, and, if so, it would be a very great step gained. Any of you who have at all followed the Report must have seen the great difficulty that there has been in arriving at any satisfactory conclusions as to the feasibility of that scheme. It was impossible to go into the larger scheme, which was never intended, that some medical societies on the periphery of London, and also provincial ones, should in any sense be affiliated with this central body. That may come in time, but, at all events, the time is not yet ripe for anything of the sort. The latter part of the Report, as is definitely stated in it, contains suggestions which the Committee thought might be embodied in the scheme for the formation of a new Society. They were specially put in, in order that when the various Societies had this Report in their hands and considered it they might offer suggestions as to how far they would be prepared to accept these suggestions, or to make further suggestions which might appear to them to be preferable. At present I do not know what will be the course of procedure in the future, whether the same Executive Committee which was appointed at the meeting of the General Committee of Representatives of July 19th will be called together again, or whether a new committee of representatives of the Societies will have to be called together to consider all the answers that we get from various Societies, and the suggestions which they make. It will then perhaps be possible to draw up a more or less definite scheme to place before these societies. Our President has reminded you of the very important position which this Society holds. It does not claim to be the oldest, but I think, without any undue pride, we may lay claim to be the most powerful—we are certainly the richest

—of these medical societies. Therefore this Society, I think, is doing more perhaps than any other Society in the way of endeavouring to promote the general welfare of the profession and the welfare of medicine in coming forward and taking, as it has done, a very leading part in endeavouring to obtain this desirable amalgamation. For that it is desirable I think is admitted by all, or admitted by almost all. Therefore I will not say anything more upon that ground. But certainly it is a very serious matter for this Society, and, as Hon. Treasurer, I would like to tell the Society that, during the more than ten years I have been Treasurer, it has never been in a sounder financial position than it is now. We have managed to wipe out our floating debt, which was some years ago very considerable, and, as you have seen in the accounts laid before you from year to year, during the last few years our annual expenditure has been within our annual income. So that we are in a perfectly sound position, and in that way we have nothing to gain by amalgamation. I would therefore now formally move the resolution, and I shall be happy, so far as I am able, to answer any questions which may be put with regard to the matter contained in this Report. The resolution which I have to put is as follows :

“That the ‘*Report on the Union of Medical Societies as amended and adopted at the Meeting of the General Committee of Representatives of the Societies held on July 19th, 1905.*’ be and is hereby approved and adopted, subject to the modifications recommended by the Council of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, and that the Council be and is hereby instructed to endeavour, in negotiating with the General Committee of Representatives of the Societies, to secure the adoption of all those modifications.”

Dr. ROBERT HUTCHISON.—I rise, sir, I confess, with some diffidence, to second the proposal which has been moved by Sir William Church. On an occasion like this it may be thought, and quite naturally, that the initiative should be left to senior Fellows in the Society, but I venture to

think, sir, that the junior Fellows are concerned in this matter in a way more immediate, if possible, than the seniors, and that on more than one ground. In the first place, this proposal which lies before us, if it be adopted, will tend, we believe, to great pecuniary economy, and I need hardly say that anything which makes for pecuniary economy appeals with special force to the junior Fellows of the Society. We hope, also, that it will make for greater ease and efficiency in the working of the different societies which at present exist, and that, I need hardly say, will also cause satisfaction to the juniors; for in the organisation of the present special societies, in arranging for their meetings, and in their secretarial work, the juniors have necessarily to play a leading part. On those two grounds I am sure that the junior Fellows of the Society will heartily support this proposal. But further, sir, I would say that, looking to the future, our support is again most essential to the success of any such amalgamation as is projected. After all, it is we, the junior Fellows, who in future will bear the burden and heat of the day, and upon us will fall the responsibility of seeing that this proposal, if it be carried out, is one that tends to success and prosperity. And so much is that the case, that I will go so far as to say that if there were any strong feeling against it felt by the junior Fellows, and if it were passed without their approval, such a proposal would be foredoomed to fail. But, sir, I venture to think that our support will be amply forthcoming. In these days, when even the most junior of us is necessarily more or less a specialist, I cannot help thinking that such a proposal as this, which will give expression to the essential solidarity of the profession, which will break down the walls which separate us, and unite us all, as it undoubtedly will, and make it easier for us to advance medical science in London, I cannot help thinking that such a proposal is bound to succeed, and it is in that belief that I commend it, not only to this meeting, but more especially to my colleagues in the junior ranks of the profession.

The PRESIDENT.—The resolution has now been moved and seconded, and we shall be very glad indeed to hear the views of any Fellow present who wishes to speak on the subject.

LIEUT.-COLONEL MYERS.—Mr. President and Fellows, I wish to rise to move an amendment, which I hope someone will second:

“That these resolutions be postponed for six months, so that before any decision is come to by the Society we may be informed what are the responsibilities attaching to amalgamation, and what are the debts, if any, which may be owing by other societies.”

In all probability there are some debts. Are we going to accept the debts of these various societies? We have had no information about that whatever. As a very old Fellow of this Society—I may say I am in my forty-third year of Fellowship—I wish to ask you to bear with me whilst I make a few remarks about this subject, feeling very strongly in opposition to the present movement. What are our gains and what are our losses in such a very grave movement, far graver, it may be, than we can possibly at the present moment realise? With regard to our gains—prestige. It is the prestige of a very great Society, we are told, and that we must lose something for the body politic; but after all, it only means the conglomeration of various societies affiliated to the parent societies. What good will come of it? There may be many other societies formed, and I do not see how the new Society could well refuse to take them in. Who knows but that in the course of time we might have a Chiropodistical Society, and before the last word is said even an Umbilicological Society! Now as to economy. We all agree that it will be very economical for other societies. I was told at the first meeting of the General Committee by a friend that he would certainly vote for the amalgamation, because he subscribes twenty-two guineas, and in future he will only have to pay three guineas. That is of course very practical, and I cannot help thinking that this movement is

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greatly dominated by economy. But is economy everything? I think not. Now what are our losses? It is only a few months ago, Mr. President, that we celebrated the centenary of this Society. And why did we celebrate it? To honour it, and to keep green the memories of those great men who have developed the Society into what Sir William Church stated had become the first medical society in the kingdom, and I may also add a society of world-wide celebrity. Well, now, what do you propose to do? You are proposing to commit suicide, that is what it comes to. ("No, no.") You say "no," but it is suicide, because the Society will entirely lose its identity, and those of us who are now old will pass away, and in the course of time the Council will not consist chiefly of Medico-Chirurgical Fellows, but of fellows of all societies. In fact, we might not have one representative of this Society on the Council of the new Society, when there are so many sections to be represented. I cannot understand how we can agree to such a change. Now, sir, here we stand with assets of about £64,000, with a balance in our bank of £1000, and a magnificent library of which we all cannot help being proud, and what is to become of us? We are going to wipe the whole thing out, and be absorbed. I can understand that the smaller societies will accept this movement as a very great boon, but even for them, as I may yet point out, it will not be all gain. Now the last matter I want to refer to—and I am sorry to have kept you so long—has reference to the question of the publication of the 'Transactions.' Looking over the volumes of this Society, will anyone present, especially the authors, say that there are any papers in these volumes that ought to be expunged? I think not. Would the Medical, the Clinical, or the Pathological Society, say they would like to see any of the papers which they have selected deleted from their volumes? Certainly not. And why should not the other societies which have carefully studied their papers, feel that their volumes are equally valuable and deserving of publication? What is the proposal? An Editorial Committee, with power to select what contribu-

tions shall appear in the volume of 'Transactions' of this new society. It must be a fairly large Committee, because the subjects to be dealt with will spread over such a large range. Let us take an instance. Supposing a Fellow of the Balneological Society were called upon to form an opinion upon a contribution from the "Laryngological, Otological, and Rhinological Association." I do not think he would be quite fitted for it. Therefore the Editorial Committee should have a representative from every section upon it. Well, sir, I must say I pity, from the bottom of my heart, that Editorial Committee. And not only will that Committee have to select the papers for the Annual volume, but they will have to go through, monthly, all the reports of sections in order to produce a monthly journal. Sir, I shall be surprised if there are enough Solomons in the profession to undertake so grave a task, and I question whether their mental strength would stand the strain. Their position will also be a difficult one from this point of view, that they will probably have to produce a volume the size of the Post Office Directory. That is what it would have to be if every Society had what they wanted published. I hope I have not detained the Society too long, and I appeal to you to think the matter over very carefully before you allow your Society to commit suicide.

The PRESIDENT.—Is this amendment seconded?

There was no response.

The PRESIDENT.—Unless there is a seconder, as there does not appear to be, the amendment necessarily falls. I would like, however, to say to Colonel Myers that the Editorial Committee is only a detail which has yet to be considered by the representatives of all the combining societies, if they arrive at that stage. It is not a necessary feature of the new scheme.

Dr. BATTEN.—May I ask if it is proposed to adopt all the amendments of the Council *en bloc*, or is it proposed to discuss each individual one? There is one amendment put down which requires consideration, and that is apropos of paragraph 5, in regard to which it is proposed by the

Council, "The Council of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society are of opinion that it would be premature at the present time to discuss the list of sections of the new Society." With regard to that, I should have thought that the list of Societies which is put down there should be stated as the minimum. I think it should be clear that the new Society may add to these, but they shall not take away from them. I say that because there are individual societies, for instance the Neurological, which, if the section of Neurology were cut out, could not join the new Society. It seems to me, therefore, that that amendment, if it is down as an amendment, is a mistake, and that those sections should exist as the minimum of sections, to which the new Society might add other sections if it so desired.

DR. EDGAR WILLETT.—May I say one or two words, Sir? I represent a small Society—that which happens for alphabetical reasons to be put first, namely, the Anæsthetic Section. The question has come up before the Society of Anæsthetists—I mention this quite informally—and it has been decided that the Society could not join the amalgamation unless women were admitted, and that view I know is held by some other societies as well, including the Obstetrical Society. If it can be modified in this way on page 5, section 7, and made to read, "The Fellowship of the Society shall be restricted to registered medical practitioners of the British Empire, and those whose scientific attainments are satisfactory to the General Council," it would meet the objection.

THE PRESIDENT.—Of course, we shall hear later on the views of the Society of Anæsthetists, the views of the Obstetrical Society, and the views of the Gynæcological Society, but we are concerned at the present moment with the views of this Society. It is perfectly open to you to move an amendment if you desire to do so.

DR. EDGAR WILLETT.—If the resolution which Sir William Church has moved prevents eventually the other Societies joining on the conditions which they wish to adopt, my amendment is what I have read. If the whole of this

amended scheme as indicated in red ink were passed that would definitely cut out women.

A FELLOW.—The word “man” has before now been interpreted to include “woman.”

Dr. SEYMOUR TAYLOR.—I have been carefully perusing this document which has been sent to the Fellows, and have devoted to it a good deal of time and attention, and it was one of the difficulties that I foresaw would come before us when I read paragraph 7, page 5. I read certain things there which I said to myself would be a stumbling-block for our scheme. I would draw attention to the last line of paragraph 7: “and to men whose scientific attainments are satisfactory to the General Council.” I would ask information whether it is the intention of the Committee who drew up this Report that laymen should be included as Honorary Fellows in the Society. If so, I would ask whether it should not pass a resolution or instructions to the Committee that they should establish a law that they shall have no management whatever, and no voice in the management of the Society. Secondly, there is the question of sex which I have annotated, and I was prepared to see some member of the Society rise—Dr. Edgar Willett has raised the point—on that question. I thought there would be some difficulty in certain societies joining under this scheme. I will tell you at once that I see more than difficulty, I can see that the scheme may even be wrecked, if you do allow women to come into the Society, and I think it should be an instruction to the Committee who drew up these further Rules, that the word “man” shall not include “woman.” There is another point, namely, about the finance of this coming institution, which it is necessary for us to know about. First of all, we have many tenants in this building, and it would be necessary that the Fellows of the Society should be told what notice it is necessary to give to these tenants, so that we should not get them out without undue compensation.

Sir WILLIAM CHURCH.—Perhaps I may be allowed to say, in answer to one or two questions, that the points that have

been raised have been present to the minds of the Committee, and I thought I made it clear in my remarks that this scheme is not a scheme for the Amalgamated Society; it is a scheme to be sent round to the societies, of which we are one, showing in what way the Committee thought amalgamation might be made. These points will have to be considered when answers from the societies come in. Do I understand Dr. Seymour Taylor to say that this Society is here to pass a resolution to-night that it will have nothing to do with this scheme if women are admitted Fellows? It was suggested that ladies, or women, should not be admitted Fellows, but it was felt that several very important societies would not wish to lose their lady members. There is a difference between a Fellow and an Associate or Member of the Society. What this scheme proposes is, that women should not be Fellows of this Society, but that they are members of its various branches or sections. Then with regard to Colonel Myers, I might mention, although he did not get any support, that what he asks us to wait six months for, has long long ago been examined and gone into. The Committee are aware of what liabilities all the other societies may have, and I am happy to be able to tell you that they have practically no liabilities, with the exception of the Medical Society, and that is such a sound concern that it is perfectly able to meet its liabilities at any moment. I will not impose longer on the meeting, but I thought it was worth while answering those points.

The PRESIDENT.—If no other Fellow wishes to address the meeting, I will now ask you to vote on the first resolution, and I ask those who are in favour of it to hold up their hands.

The resolution was carried, with only two dissentients, amid applause.

Dr. P. H. PYE-SMITH, F.R.S.—You have asked me, Sir, to move the second resolution. It is a somewhat long one, and you are probably all familiar with it after having read it through. But I hope other Fellows will agree with me that it is not unnecessarily long, and if I may take it as

read I think it will shorten the time of my speech. I would only congratulate the Society on having advanced thus far, and while we all must have felt great sympathy with one of our esteemed senior Fellows in his attachment to the old Society and its unchanged glories, I think we must feel also that the mere fact that this Society has done such admirable work, and has attained such a high position during so many past years, gives rise to the suspicion, considering how the world around us changes, that the time may have come when a forward step should be taken; in other words, that reform is much better than perseverance in methods which admit of no change. And this is particularly the case, I think, with regard to medical and other societies, and I think we owe a great deal, Sir, to yourself and to Sir William Church and other members of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, who conducted the Association in the way that they have, and that they have seen the direction in which the course of events is trending. Those of us who attend medical and other societies must have seen that the time for reading papers is less than it was once, that discussions are less formal than they were, and that on the whole the less which is read and the more which is argued the better. That is the case with the Royal Society and other societies, and it is certainly the case in the Pathological Society and in the Physiological Society, and in both the Societies which cultivate Dermatology. And that is the direction in which, I take it, reform is required, and which I trust we are taking a step in the direction of cultivating. I hope the Committee will find it an advantage to make a change in that respect. Moreover, we have in this Society, two, I may say three, advantages which will be perfectly intact under the new scheme, and which are, to my mind, more valuable than anything which we can possibly lose. One is our magnificent library, the other is our admirable 'Transactions,' and the other is the memories which surround the Society, and which are not the least precious among our possessions. Therefore I move, with great

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confidence, this second resolution, which gives power to the Council of this Society to act in this matter, and it is not until action has been taken, backed up by the decision we have made, that the Committee will be able to negotiate advantageously with the other Societies. That these negotiations will end satisfactorily, I am sure, is to the advantage not only of this Society, but of the other Societies which are interested in it. One word only before I sit down, and that is in regard to the proposed name; nothing has been settled in regard to that at present. I would ask the Council to carefully consider, before approaching other Societies, whether the proposal to use the words "Royal Academy of Medicine" is not in every way better than the word "Society." I think we all feel it might savour of arrogation of the claim of another Society, that of Fellow of the Royal Society, and I think the terms scarcely cover the suggestion. It would be a mistake to have any possibility of confusion, and I cannot help thinking that this is an argument which should weigh very strongly. It may be said that the term "Royal Academy" in itself might give rise to confusion, but that is not the case, I think, because we are a scientific Society like the Royal Society, all the earlier members of which cultivated medicine. But the Royal Academy is so very different from our sphere, even in the beautifully drawn Pathological Proceedings, that there should be no possible confusion. Moreover there is another advantage, that our sister kingdom of Ireland—where the same amalgamation was carried out very successfully, and is a moral to us Englishmen, who cannot believe that Irishmen can compose differences, and see great objects—invented and applied the term "Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland." With that recommendation I beg to move the resolution, which is as follows:

"That the Council be and is hereby authorised to take all such steps and proceedings, and to do all such acts and things as the Council, in its discretion, shall consider necessary or expedient for carrying into effect the amalgamation of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical

Society with all or any sufficient number (at the discretion of the Council) of the Societies named in the 'Report on the Union of Medical Societies as amended and adopted at the Meeting of the General Committee of Representatives of the Societies held on July 19th, 1905,' or with any other Society or Societies, either in accordance with the scheme set forth in the Report (subject or not as the Council shall think fit to the modifications recommended by the Council, or to such (if any) other modifications, amendments, or alterations as the Council in its discretion shall consider necessary or expedient), or in accordance with such other scheme as the Council, in its discretion, shall think advisable.'

MR. D'ARCY POWER.—Sir, I rise with great pleasure to second the resolution which has been spoken to by Dr. Pye-Smith. It is nothing but a vote of confidence, I think, in our Council, whom we elect annually, and it is therefore with very great pleasure that we leave these further details in their hands. They will, I have no doubt, carry out in every possible way to our satisfaction the details of the scheme which we have just voted upon. I suppose it rests with ourselves to make ourselves *primus inter pares*. It is quite possible. We are the chief Society of England, and have been so for many years, and it remains for the Fellows to continue to place ourselves in that position, even amongst the other societies, when we are amalgamated with them. Therefore very few words are required from me in seconding the proposition.

THE PRESIDENT.—This is the second proposition. I think it will be much easier to each gentleman to read it himself than for me to read it out. It is practically only to carry into effect the first. I do not suppose there will be very much discussion upon it, but if there is any Fellow present who would like to speak upon it before we put it to the vote, I am sure we shall be very pleased to hear what he has to say.

DR. BUZZARD.—I should like to point out to Dr. Pye-Smith, in reference to the remark which fell from him concerning the projected name of the new Society, that we have just round the corner here, in Tenterden Street, the

Royal Academy of Music, which has been established there for a great number of years. Members of that Academy constantly use the letters R.A.M., and those letters are consequently recognised as indicating the Royal Academy of Music. There is a convenience, no doubt, in being able to abbreviate a designation, and we should, to abbreviate our designation, naturally use the letters R.A.M. I am inclined to think that it is very possible some difficulties may arise in regard to that.

DR. PYE-SMITH.—But the letter F could come before it, which would surely make a difference ?

DR. BUZZARD.—But there are also Fellows of the Royal Academy of Music.

THE PRESIDENT.—This question must arise when we have got a little further on, and I think we have reached a further stage to-day, but when the whole scheme comes before the representatives of all the Societies we shall finally have to discuss the question of the names. It is a very difficult question to decide, but, after all, if we get the Society, I am sure we can find a name for it. If no other Fellow wishes to address the meeting, I will put this second resolution.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

THE PRESIDENT.—That concludes our business, gentlemen, and I feel deeply gratified, and I congratulate the Society on having so unanimously come to these decisions. I think we all feel that the objects of this Society are greater even than the Society itself, great as that Society has been during the last 100 years.

PROPOSED UNION OF MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

IN continuation of the record of this movement printed in last year's volume, the Hon. Secretaries of the Committee, Messrs. Latham and Pendlebury, have been good enough to supply the following statement recording the progress of the movement to July 17th, 1906.

A meeting of the Committee of Representatives of the various Societies was held at 20, Hanover Square, on December 19th, 1905.

Sir WILLIAM CHURCH read from the chair replies (page cxxxiv *et. seq.*) which had been received from twenty-three societies on the subject of the Report of the Committee of Representatives as amended and adopted on July 19th, 1906. All these societies agreed as to the feasibility of union, but made varying conditions with regard to their acceptance of the Report.

After some discussion, and after hearing the opinion of some of the ladies in the profession, it was decided that on the formation of the new Society women should become members of sections only, but that this decision should be without prejudice to their position in the Society in the future.

The following resolutions were carried :

- (1) That an Organising Committee, consisting of the members of the late Executive Committee, together with representatives of the Pathological and Obstetrical Societies, be appointed to consider the replies that have been received from the various societies, and to take such steps as they may think fit to formulate a definite scheme of amalgamation. That this Committee have power to add to its number.
- (2) That it be an instruction to the Organising Committee that circulars be sent to all members of those societies which have given a conditional assent to the scheme of amalgamation for the purpose of ascertaining whether, in the event of

amalgamation taking place, they would be prepared to join as Fellows of the proposed new Society, or as members of a section or sections.

- (3) That the necessary expenditure which has been incurred, and which will have to be incurred, in promoting the scheme of amalgamation be defrayed by funds to be contributed from the societies which have given a conditional assent to the scheme in proportion to the number¹ of members constituting such societies.

The Organising Committee held a number of meetings from February to July, 1906. At the commencement of its sittings the Committee had before it the annexed suggestions (page cxlviii) from the Hon. Secretaries, which were discussed in detail. A number of sub-committees were then appointed to negotiate with delegates of the various societies with regard to the various objections raised by these societies to the Report of July 19th, 1905.

A Finance Sub-Committee was also appointed to investigate thoroughly the finance of the proposed new Society.

The Organising Committee fully considered the reports of its various sub-committees, and then passed unanimously the annexed Report (page clii). This Report was considered on July 17th, 1906, by the Committee of Representatives of various societies. Sir William Church, in the chair, pointed out that the first meeting of members of the societies, held at the Royal College of Physicians, was to consider the feasibility of union, and that, as the outcome of that meeting, the Committee of Representatives was appointed. The Committee of Representatives appointed an Executive Committee to go more thoroughly into the feasibility of the union, and to outline some scheme of union if such were found possible. This Executive Committee reported that a union was feasible on certain lines, and the Report was confirmed by the Committee of Representatives on July 19th, 1905. Thereupon an Organising Committee was appointed to draw up a definite and as far as possible a detailed scheme of union. The Report of the Organising Committee was now before the Committee of Representatives, and, if approved, would be sent to the societies to act upon or not as they thought fit.

The Report was adopted unanimously by the Committee of Representatives with a few verbal alterations, as shown in the footnotes of the Report.

Those societies which approve of the Report and decide to join the proposed union will appoint a representative before December 7th next to sit upon a Committee which shall act as the Council of the new Society and deal with the necessary details of the amalgamation.

¹ This was altered by the Organising Committee to the more just proportion of "income of such Societies from subscriptions."

REPLIES OF TWENTY-THREE SOCIETIES TO THE REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTATIVES (pp. cxxxiv—cxlvii).

The Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society,
20, Hanover Square, W., November 24th, 1905.

Dear Sirs,—I have great pleasure in informing you that at a Special General Meeting of this Society, held here yesterday, the enclosed resolution was carried unanimously. For your information I enclose also three copies of your Report, showing in red ink the modifications this Society would like to see adopted.*—Faithfully yours,

J. Y. W. MACALISTER, *Secretary*.

“That the Council be and is hereby authorised to take all such steps and proceedings, and to do all such acts and things as to the Council, in its discretion, shall seem necessary or expedient for carrying into effect the amalgamation of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society with any sufficient number (at the discretion of the Council) of the Societies named in the ‘*Report on the Union of Medical Societies as amended and adopted at the meeting of the General Committee of Representatives of the Societies held on July 19th, 1905,*’ or with any other Society, or Societies, either in accordance with the scheme set forth in the Report subject or not (as the Council shall think fit) to the modifications recommended to them or to such (if any) other modifications, amendments, or alterations as to the Council in its discretion shall seem necessary or expedient, or in accordance with such other scheme as the Council in its discretion shall think desirable.”

MESSRS. LATHAM and PENDLEBURY.

* *List of Modifications (marked in red ink) in Copy of Report.*

“N.B.—It has to be remembered that the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society has a Debenture Debt of £33,000 which must be paid off or provided for in 1939. On the other hand, its assets are valued at upwards of £60,000.

“1. The new Society shall be called the Royal Society of Medicine.

“2. All moneys, books, premises, and other properties belonging to any of the societies which join the proposed union shall become the property of the new Society, and shall be vested in the Fellows.

“4. The Fellows of the Society shall meet annually for the election of officers and other business, and four or more times a year for the election of Fellows and for such other business as may be desired by the Council.

“7a. The election of Fellows shall be on the same lines as are at present followed in the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society.

“N.B.—The Council of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society are of opinion that it would be premature at the present time to discuss the list of sections of the new Society.

“11. The general management of the Society shall be under the control of a General Council, consisting of the President, the Presidents of the various sections, two Treasurers, two Librarians, two Secretaries, and eight Fellows. The members of the Council, with the exception of the Presidents of the sections (who are to be *ex-officio* members) shall be elected by the Fellows.”

The Medical Society of London,
11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.,
November 27th, 1905.

To the Honorary Secretary, the Committee *re* the Proposed Amalgamation of London Medical Societies.

Proposed Amalgamation of London Medical Societies.

Dear Sir,—At a special meeting of the Council of the Medical Society of

London, held November 22nd, to consider the proposed amalgamation of London medical societies, the following resolution was passed:

“That whilst re-asserting the desirability of an amalgamation of the various medical societies of London into a Royal Society of Medicine, the Medical Society of London can only agree to join in this effort, provided—

- “First, that the financial position of the proposed new body is found to be satisfactory after the financial accounts of the various societies have been thoroughly investigated; and
 “Second, that the privileges of the Fellows of the Medical Society are carefully safeguarded.”

We shall be glad if you will bring the above resolution before the next meeting of your Committee.

We are, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

J. S. RISIEN RUSSELL, } *Hon. Secs.*
 CUTHBERT S. WALLACE, }

Hunterian Society, London Institution,
 Finsbury Circus, E.C., 29, Weymouth Street, W.,
 November 25th, 1905.

The Secretaries of the Committee for the Union of Medical Societies.

Dear Sirs,—A Special Meeting of the Council of the Hunterian Society has been held to consider the position of the Society in regard to the proposed amalgamation of medical societies, and we are instructed to lay before you their views as follows:

- “(1) The Hunterian Society is one of the oldest of the medical societies in London, and is especially interested in Clinical Medicine and Clinical Surgery, having a considerable membership both among general practitioners and consultants.
 “(2) The Council hope that some proposal for affiliation may receive full and early consideration which, whilst preserving the character, individuality, and local usefulness of the Hunterian Society, may give its Fellows the great advantages of a connection with the proposed central Society.
 “(3) If the question of the participation of this Society is deferred until after the Union has taken place, the Council would ask that the Fellows of the Hunterian Society should be treated on as favourable terms as those of the uniting societies.”

Yours faithfully,

FRED. J. SMITH, *President.*

R. FORTESCUE FOX, *Hon. Secretary.*

Pathological Society of London,
 20, Hanover Square, W., December 9th, 1905.

Dear Sirs,—I enclose, as you wish, a copy of the amendments, etc., adopted by the Council on November 7th, 1905, in regard to the Report of the Executive Committee as amended July 19th, 1905.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. ARTHUR LATHAM.

S. G. SHATTOCK.

Mr. HERBERT S. PENDLEBURY.

These amendments would have finally to be discussed at and passed by a general meeting, which might be summoned at any time for the purpose as circumstances require.

Page 4, par. 1.—“The Council were strong in their view that the title of the proposed Society should *not* be the Royal Society of Medicine.”

The resolution took only this negative position.

Page 4, par. 4.—Amendment: “That meetings of the Society, as a whole, should be held at the discretion of the General Council.”

Page 6.—At the end of paragraph 10 was added: “Each member shall receive a copy of the publication or publications containing a record of the work done in his section or sections.”

Page 6, par. 13.—To this was added: “The selection of all illustrations coming under the cognisance of the Pathological Section, the methods of their reproduction, and the firms employed to reproduce them, shall be in the hands of the Council of the Pathological Section.”

At the bottom of page 6 was added: “Should a paper be selected for the ‘Transactions,’ an abstract of it may previously appear in the ‘Proceedings.’”

In par. 15, line 5.—After the words “Editorial Committee” was added: “On which the Pathological Section shall be represented.”

Page 7.—The whole of the first paragraph was disagreed to, with the exception of the three last lines, viz. “Authors of papers should have the privilege of suggesting the section or sections before which they wish to read their papers.”

In addition to the foregoing the Council adopted the following resolution of a Committee appointed to consider the question of confederation.

“If it shall appear that the financial position of the new Society will allow of an adequate expenditure upon the publication of the Pathological Section, the Pathological Society will be prepared to join the new Society.”

The Pathological Society will agree to have its donation list to British, Irish, Colonial, and Foreign Universities curtailed in accordance with the regulations which the new Society may make in this respect for general observance, and will be prepared for the discontinuance of gratuitous copies to contributors, if this practice is not adopted generally by the new Society.

Clinical Society, 20, Hanover Square,
London, W., December 9th, 1905.

Dear Sirs,—In reply to your letter of the 6th inst., I have to inform you that the following resolution was unanimously passed at a special general meeting of the Clinical Society of London, held on Tuesday, November 21st ult.:

“That the Clinical Society of London expresses an opinion in favour of the amalgamation of the various medical societies of London, provided that the scheme proposed prove financially feasible.”

At the meetings of the Council of the Society at which the Report of the General Committee of the Representatives of the Societies has been discussed, a general expression of opinion was made on the following two points:

(1) That a Clinical Section of the new Society should continue work on the lines which have guided the meetings of the Clinical Society of London in the past.

(2) That it is highly desirable that the ‘Proceedings’ of this Section should be published in such a form as to continue the existence of the ‘Transactions’ of the present Society. It was felt that these ‘Transac-

tions,' as a record rather of facts than opinions, are of a somewhat special literary value as illustrating the progress of clinical medicine.

I am, dear sirs, faithfully yours,

G. H. MAKINS,

Representative of the Clinical Society of London.

To ARTHUR LATHAM, Esq., M.D., and
H. S. PENDLEBURY, Esq.

Obstetrical Society of London,
20, Hanover Square, W., December 6th, 1905.

To the Hon. Secretaries, Union of Medical Societies.

Dear Sirs,—We have the pleasure to inform you that at a meeting of this Society, held on December 4th, 1905, the following resolutions were passed *nem. con.*

- (1) "That this meeting is in favour of amalgamation."
- (2) "That the Report of the Executive Committee be received and adopted subject to the amendments printed in red ink." (On the copy of Report enclosed.)

We are, dear Sirs, yours very faithfully,

M. HANDFIELD-JONES, } *Hon. Secs.*
ROBERT BOXALL, }

[Enclosure.]

"The Council of the Obstetrical Society think that no member of any existing Society should be admitted as a member of the amalgamation until he has paid all arrears of his subscriptions.

"The Council of the Obstetrical Society propose that, for the present, their capital shall remain in the hands of their Trustees, with the addition of others to be appointed, with power—if in the course of five to ten years the financial position of the amalgamation should be assured—to hand it over. In the meanwhile they do not object to instruct these Trustees to hand over the interest.

"As regards books, they think that the Obstetrical Society's library should be kept distinct, under the title of 'The Rigby Library,' the name originally given to it (see 'Obstetrical Transactions,' vol. iii, 1862, p. 29) in memory of its founder and first benefactor, Dr. E. Rigby, jun., and remain the property of their Trustees as defined above.

"The Obstetrical Society has, since 1902, opened its doors to qualified medical women, and could not in honour consent to their exclusion from any of the privileges which they at present possess.

"The Council of the Obstetrical Society think that no Fellow or member should have the power of voting in any section, or sections, except those to which he has been elected.

"The Council of the Obstetrical Society think that the following words should be added after 'sections,' 'but no Fellow of the new Society who is not an elected member of the Section shall have the power to vote in that Section.'

"The Council of the Obstetrical Society think that the Fellows on the roll of the Obstetrical Society at the time of the amalgamation should have access to the Rigby Library, and power to borrow books from it without any extra library subscription.

"The Council of the Obstetrical Society think that each Section having invested capital should be represented by one of its Trustees on the Finance Committee.

"The Council of the Obstetrical Society think that the new 'Proceedings' of the Obstetrical Section should exhibit, for convenience of

reference, evidences of continuity with the present 'Transactions' of the Society, known as the 'Obstetrical Transactions,' and that arrangements for their publication should be left in the hands of the Council of the Section.

"The Council does not think a double publication of its 'Proceedings' desirable.

"Other matters may occur to the Council of the Obstetrical Society in the course of the negotiations (some of which are already in view) such as the constitution of the Council of the Obstetrical and Gynæcological section, the mode of election of officers, and similar matters. When such occur the Council will communicate with the Amalgamation Committee."

Anatomical Society of Great Britain and Ireland,
Medical School, Charing Cross Hospital,
London, W.C., *November 8th, 1905.*

Dear Dr. Latham,—At a meeting of the Committee of Management of this Society held the other day, the Report of the Sub-Committee on the Union of Medical Societies was considered, and the Committee *reluctantly* came to the conclusion that, in view of the indefinite proposal in the Report with regard to anatomy, and in view of the scattered membership of this Society, and the smallness of its annual subscription (10s.), it was not possible for them, at present, to recommend the Society to take any action in the matter.

I am, faithfully yours,
CHRISTOPHER ADDISON, *Hon. Secretary.*

Medico-Psychological Association,
36, Queen Anne Street, W., *December 8th, 1905.*

Dear Sir,—In reply to your letter of December 6th, asking if I could give you a reply before December 15th as to the views of the Medico-Psychological Association on the Report of the Executive Committee as amended and adopted, I write to say that the question came before the Council of the Association at its meeting in November, and that a special sub-committee was appointed to consider the matter and report again to the Council at its next meeting in February. The question of union cannot be decided until each of the five Divisions of the Association (Scottish, Irish, Northern, South-Eastern, and South-Western) has had an opportunity of considering the subject, which will then have to be finally considered at at least two general meetings of the whole of the Association.

At present one can say nothing more than that there appear to be very great difficulties in the way of the Association as a whole forming a section of the proposed Academy of Medicine and surrendering its present freedom of action and its duties with regard to many important questions.

Yours faithfully,

DR. ARTHUR LATHAM, 44, Brook Street, W. R. PERCY SMITH.

36, Queen Anne Street, W., *January 12th, 1906.*

Re Union of Medical Societies.

Dear Sirs,—In accordance with a resolution passed at the meeting of the Council of the Medico-Psychological Association on November 16th, "That a Committee be appointed to confer with the Executive Committee of the proposed union in order to see if objections which at present seem to the Council to be fatal can in any way be met," I write to say that the Com-

mittee thus appointed begs to forward herewith the following list of matters for consideration at the suggested conference between it and the Executive (now Organising) Committee.

1. The constitution of the Association is not merely that of a London medical society, but involves the existence of "Divisions" spread over the whole of the United Kingdom, and which are as follows: English Divisions, namely: (a) South-Eastern (including London); (b) South-Western; (c) Northern and Midland. Scottish Division. Irish Division.

This constitution has been revised quite recently, giving more power to the Divisions, each of which elects its own representatives on the Council of the Association, and holds divisional meetings in addition to the general meetings of the Association. All important questions, such as the present proposal, are referred to the Divisions, and it is highly improbable that the members of these Divisions will consent to form merely a sub-section of one section of the proposed union.

2. The Association is registered under the Companies Act, and therefore any amalgamation with other societies would involve "winding-up" and other legal formalities.
3. Many of the members of the Association would object most strongly to the Journal of the Association ('Journal of Mental Science') being dropped. The Journal is also a source of profit to the funds of the Association.
4. The Association holds certain trust funds for the purpose of awarding prizes to assistant medical officers of asylums, which it could not hand over to another body.
5. The Association has for many years taken an important position with regard to the training, examination, and registration of mental nurses, and a Select Committee of the House of Commons having recently recommended that a separate Register of registered asylum nurses should be kept by the central body, to which should be admitted nurses of good character holding the Association's certificate, we cannot take any step which might in any way interfere with our responsibility in this respect.
6. The Association has a Parliamentary Committee for the purpose of watching legislation in connection with the care and treatment of the insane and matters allied to it. At times, when Bills are passing through Parliament, it is necessary for the Parliamentary Committee to act quickly on its own decision and without reference to a General Meeting of the Association. There might be great difficulties in this if the Association were merely one section of the union.
7. It appears to the Committee that there might be great danger of the work of the Association being at times overruled by the votes of Fellows who might have no knowledge of, or interest in, the special work of the Association.

The Committee would be glad to have the opportunity of discussing these matters with the Organising Committee in time for the result to be laid before the Council of the Association at its meeting at Wakefield on February 23rd next.

I am, dear Sirs, yours faithfully,

Dr. A. LATHAM,
H. S. PENDLEBURY, Esq.

R. PERCY SMITH.

Laryngological Society of London,
20, Hanover Square, W., *January 2nd, 1906.*

Dear Sir,—At a Special General Meeting of the Laryngological Society

of books, it might not be necessary that it should be located in a separate room (it might, for instance, occupy a bay in the general library), but this portion of the library should remain accessible to the existing country members of the Odontological Society without their being called upon for an increased subscription.

“If the library, with the foregoing exception, was to be thus treated as a portion of the general library it would, of course, be necessary that it should be kept up to date out of the funds of the Academy of Medicine.”

I am requested to make it clear to the Committee that the above represents the opinions of the Council only, and that the matter must finally be laid before a general meeting of the members for decision.

I am, Gentlemen, Yours faithfully,

J. HOWARD MUMMERY,

Representative appointed by the Odontological Society.

British Balneological and Climatological Society,

20, Hanover Square, W., *December 4th, 1905.*

To the Secretaries of the Committee for the Union of Medical Societies.

Dear Sirs,—The Council of the British Balneological and Climatological Society have had under consideration the proposals of your Committee for the Union of Medical Societies. In response to the request of your Committee for a statement of the views of this Society, as one of the Societies included in the proposed union, I am instructed by the Council to submit:

- “(1) That they welcome the proposal for a Royal Society or Academy of Medicine, and are prepared to recommend it to their Society on the definite understanding that the subjects of Balneology and Climatology are allowed to form a separate and distinct section. These subjects are sufficiently recognised as to form together an important branch of practical medicine, and should not, therefore, in the opinion of the Council, be relegated to a sub-section. The Society has a distinctive position in Great Britain and Ireland, and of necessity includes a large proportion of country Fellows (about three quarters of its total membership of 380). These are scattered widely amongst the health resorts of the country, and to provide an appropriate centre for all health resort practitioners is one of the main objects of its existence.
- “(2) We submit further, therefore, that it is desirable to make some difference in the subscription between town members and country members, because it is obvious that the country members would not be able to utilise the library and premises of the new body as freely as those resident in town.
- “(3) The circulation of the ‘Journal of Balneology and Climatology,’ or ‘Transactions,’ is an essential part of the work of the Society, and we feel that no scheme of amalgamation would be altogether satisfactory which entailed the disappearance or absorption of this publication.”

Finally, though we readily admit the advantages to be obtained by the work of amalgamation, and though we are anxious to further the scheme by every means in our power, we feel that it is only by preserving a certain individuality in the proposed larger organisation on the lines above indicated that this Society can hope to continue to fulfil its functions. Yours faithfully,

GEO. W. HAMILTON CUMMING, *President.*

W. V. SNOW, *Chairman of Council.*

SEPTIMUS SUNDERLAND, *Hon. Sec.*

LEONARD WILLIAMS, *Vice-President.*

British Gynæcological Society,
20, Hanover Square, W.,

October 24th, 1905.

Dear Sir,—I had a Special Council of the Gynæcological Society summoned to consider the Executive Committee's Report.

The Council wished to make these comments on the Report:

- (1) The Council approves generally of the Report and the conditions contained in it.
- (2) The Council approves of the name "Royal Society of Medicine."
- (3) *Re* Clause 7, p. 5, the Council thinks the word "*men*" should be deleted and the clause read "the Fellowship of the Society shall be restricted to registered medical practitioners," etc.
- (4) Clause 11, p. 6, the membership of Fellows in the two societies (nearly 500 in the Gynæcological alone) warrants a larger representation on the General Council of the Society.
- (5) Only very distinguished men are elected Honorary Fellows of the British Gynæcological Society; the Council considers that the present Honorary Fellows should retain the Honorary Fellowship of the Royal Society.

I am also to add that as the British Gynæcological Society is an incorporated society it will be necessary to get the consent of the general body of Fellows before the proposed amalgamation can take place.

To this end it would be desirable that the two Societies—Obstetrical and Gynæcological—should have an understanding as to the conditions under which the union should be carried out.

I remain, Yours very faithfully,

A. LATHAM, Esq.

H. MACNAUGHTON-JONES.

The Neurological Society of the United Kingdom,

15, Upper Berkeley Street, Portman Square, W.,

December 7th, 1905.

Dear Sir,—I beg to inform you that at a Special Meeting of the Neurological Society, held on November 18th, the following resolution was carried:

"That the Neurological Society join in the amalgamation of medical societies, provided that there be a separate Neurological Section in the new Society."

I am, dear Sir, Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR LATHAM, Esq., M.D.

LEONARD G. GUTHRIE, *Hon. Sec.*

British Laryngological, Rhinological, and Otological Association,

20, Weymouth Street, Portland Place, W., November 21st, 1905.

Gentlemen,—At the General Meeting of the British Laryngological, Rhinological, and Otological Association, held on November 10th, the question of the union of the medical societies was discussed, and the following resolution was passed:

"This Association is in entire accord with the general principle of the union of the medical societies, but finds itself unable to join in the present scheme unless—(1) women practitioners are granted equal rights with men, and (2) the individual sections are given a greater degree of autonomy than is indicated in the report."

I am, Yours truly,

CHICHELE NOURSE.

Dermatological Society of Great Britain and Ireland.

At a Special General Meeting, held at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., on Wednesday, November 22nd, 1905, the following resolutions were carried unanimously :

“That it is desirable (if the details of arrangement can be satisfactorily completed) that the Dermatological Society of Great Britain and Ireland should join the proposed union of medical societies.

“That this Society approves of the scheme for the formation of the new Society as formulated in the Report of the Executive Committee (pages 4–6), as amended and adopted at the meeting of the General Committee of Representatives of the Societies, held on July 19th, 1905.

“That this Society approves of the title of ‘The Royal Society of Medicine’ for the new Society.”

EDWARD STAINER, } *Hon. Secs.*
SPENCER HURLBUTT, }

Dermatological Society of London,

61, Wimpole Street, Cavendish Square, W.,

January 31st, 1906.

Dear Latham,—This Society cordially approves the scheme for the union of the existing medical societies in accordance with the suggestions of the Executive Committee’s Report, amended and adopted by the General Committee of Representatives of the Societies held on July 19th, 1905, and is willing to join, provided satisfactory arrangements can be made.

Upon the question as to the proposed name for the new amalgamated Society, a majority voted for the title of “Royal Academy of Medicine.”

Believe me, yours sincerely,

E. GRAHAM LITTLE, *Junior Sec., Derm. Soc. Lond.*

West London Medico-Chirurgical Society,

124, Harley Street, W., *September 25th, 1905.*

Union of Medical Societies *re* West London Medico-Chirurgical Society.

Dear Sirs,—In reply to your circular of even date, I take it that under the scheme proposed this Society (West London Medico-Chirurgical Society) cannot take any part.

If I am wrong, perhaps you will inform me, and I would bring the matter before the Society.

Yours truly,

W. McADAM ECCLES.

Dr. ARTHUR LATHAM, and
H. S. PENDLEBURY, Esq.

British Electro-Therapeutic Society,

22, Queen Anne Street, Cavendish Square, W.,

October 30th, 1905.

Union of Medical Societies.

At the Ordinary Meeting of this Society, held at 11, Chandos Street, on Friday, October 27th, 1905, it was moved by Dr. Lewis Jones, seconded by Dr. Reginald Morton, and carried :

“That the British Electro-Therapeutic Society is in favour of joining the proposed union of the medical societies, but would like to see the establishment of a special Electro-Therapeutic or Physio-Thera-

peutic sub-section in such a united Society, for the reason that such a sub-section would be a meeting-place for members interested in a well-defined sphere of medical work."

REGINALD MORTON, *Hon. Secretary.*

Medical Officers of Schools Association,
33, Harley Street, W., *December 7th, 1905.*

Dear Sir,—In reply to your letter, December 6th, the Council of the Association have considered the matter, but, owing to the rules of the Society, are unable to send any reply until after the General Meeting, which is held in April.

Yours faithfully,
FREDERICK E. BATTEN, *Hon. Sec.*

Life Assurance Medical Officers' Association,
57, Harley Street, W., *December 9th, 1905.*

To the Honorary Secretaries.

Dear Sirs,—At a meeting of the Life Assurance Medical Officers' Association, held on December 6th, I was requested to forward to you for the information of the members of your General Committee a copy of a resolution unanimously adopted at that meeting.

The resolution reads as follows:

"That Dr. Heron be empowered to convey to the Central Committee that this Society will be pleased to join (in the proposed amalgamation) on condition that it shall maintain its complete autonomy as a separate section."

I am, yours very truly,
G. A. HERON.

Medico-Legal Society,
5, Essex Court, Temple, E.C., *December 16th, 1905.*

Dear Sir,—At a meeting of the Council of the Medico-Legal Society it was agreed that:

"The Medico-Legal Society be recognised in the scheme for the amalgamation of the societies, but that it is premature to make any binding proposal."

I shall be at the meeting on Tuesday.

Yours faithfully,
R. HENSLOWE WELLINGTON.

Otological Society,
26, Wimpole Street, W., *October 21st, 1905.*

Re Union of Societies.

Dear Sirs,—On the other side I send you the reply of the Council of the Otological Society to your second question—"Under what conditions your Society (Otological Society) would be prepared to join such a scheme as in the printed report."

Yours very truly,
URBAN PRITCHARD.

Drs. Latham and Pendlebury.

The Council of the Otological Society would recommend the Society to join the Union Scheme on the following conditions:

"1. That there shall be separate Sections for Otology and Laryngology.
(Each section would take Rhinology.)

"2. That paragraph 8, page 5 of the Report, be amended by adding after 'any of its sections' 'after having been duly elected by the members of such section.'

"3. That paragraph 13, page 6, be amended by adding at the end—
'and the election of its own members.'

The foregoing three amendments are regarded as essential, but the Council recommend the following further alterations:

"4. That the name of the new body should be 'The Royal Academy of Medicine,' and that the sections be called affiliated societies.

"5. To paragraph 5, page 5, adding at the end, 'of the section.'

"6. Page 7. That the first paragraph be omitted, as the Council of the Otological Society consider that the author of a paper should have a voice on the question of the section in which his paper is to be read."

The Society for the Study of Inebriety,

120, Harley Street, W. *December 7th, 1905.*

My dear Sirs,—Thanks for your communication of 6th inst.

The matter has been considered by our Council.

There seems to be difficulty in our being able to comply with suggested requirements, for:

1. Our minimum annual subscription is only 5s., which not only allows of attendance at each quarterly meeting, but provides for free delivery of the quarterly journal.
2. Non-medicals are admitted to the Society as Associates.

I am, yours faithfully,

T. N. KELYNACK, *Hon. Sec.*

The Society for the Study of Disease in Children,

50, Wimpole Street, *October 10th, 1905.*

Dear Sir,—In answer to your inquiry as to whether the above-named Society would be willing to join in the amalgamation, I am unable to give any definite answer. The scheme has been before the Council, and they decided that until it was known whether the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society and the Medical Society could arrange a union it would be useless for this Society to consider the matter. Yours faithfully,

To Dr. LATHAM.

R. CLEMENT LUCAS.

Society of Anæsthetists,

20, Hanover Square, W.,

December 7th, 1905.

Dear Sirs,—I have to inform you that the proposed amalgamation scheme has been considered by the Society of Anæsthetists.

The Society of Anæsthetists is willing to join the proposed new Society on the basis outlined in the report on the following conditions:

1. That no Fellow, unless elected a member of the Section, be permitted to vote either for the election of officers or upon any alteration of the Rules of the Section.
2. That women be eligible for the Fellowship of the new Society.
3. That the Council of the Section has the sole right to accept or refuse all papers and communications pertaining to it.

I hope to be present at the meeting on Tuesday, December 19th.

Yours truly,

ARTHUR LATHAM, Esq., M.D.

R. J. PROBYN-WILLIAMS.

Epidemiological Society of London,
11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.,
November 18th, 1905.

Dear Sir,—A Special Meeting of the Epidemiological Society was held on November 10th, 1905, for the consideration of the Report of the General Committee of Representatives on the proposed Union of London Medical Societies, and the conclusions reached were as follows :

- “ (1) The Epidemiological Society attaches great importance to maintaining continuity of name as well as of work, and from that point of view would strongly advocate the term *Academy* being applied to the united body of societies as a whole, the Epidemiological Society being designated a Society.
- “ (2) The Epidemiological Society assumes it is contemplated that the election of the Council and Officers (as well as Members) of each Section will be made by the Section itself. I am instructed to enclose a list of the Officers of the Society, showing the basis on which it is organised.
- “ (3) The success of the meetings and discussions of the Epidemiological Society has been found to depend largely upon the fact that it has been the practice of the Council and Officers of the Society to discriminate among papers offered, to select the subjects best fitted for discussion, and to invite contributions from eminent authorities. This course is, in the opinion of the Society, preferable to that suggested in the sixth paragraph of page 6 of the Report of the General Committee of Representatives.
- “ (4) The Epidemiological Society attaches great importance to the continuance of the present practice of the Society, namely, that all papers shall be printed in proof before the meetings, and that the papers (and, if deemed of sufficient interest by the Council of the Society, the discussion also) shall appear in full in the Annual Volume, a copy of which is sent to every subscribing member. The Society regards this condition as essential, and desires to suggest further that the Editorial Committee of the united body of Societies should include a representative of each Section.
- “ (5) The Epidemiological Society, in the event of union, would desire to retain, subject to any formal ratification that may be prescribed, the right to elect Honorary and Corresponding Members, thereby establishing relations with all the leading colonial and foreign epidemiologists.
- “ (6) The Jenner Medal, which bears the name of the Epidemiological Society, and is awarded by the Society as an exceptional distinction, is identified so closely with epidemiology that—again in the event of union—it seems desirable that the initiative in any future award should still rest with the Section.
- “ (7) Subject to the foregoing conditions, the Society approves generally the proposed union of medical societies.”

Yours truly,

W. H. HAMER, *Hon Sec.*

H. S. PENDLEBURY, Esq., F.R.C.S.,
44, Brook Street, W.

SOME SUGGESTIONS FROM THE HON. SECRETARIES FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE.

DEAR SIR,

In our capacity of Secretaries to the various committees of the above we have received from different sources a number of expressions of opinion concerning the organisation and details of the proposed new society. We therefore venture to formulate some of the conclusions which we have reached concerning the more controversial matters at stake, in the hope that by so doing we may possibly shorten the labours of the Organising Committee.

Yours faithfully, ARTHUR LATHAM, HERBERT S. PENDLEBURY.

44, Brook Street, W. February 28th, 1906.

The replies of the various societies, embodying criticism on the scheme as outlined in the Report of the Executive Committee may be analysed as follows :

- (1) Acceptances on Lines which are likely to be met. Royal Medical and Chirurgical, Pathological, Clinical, Gynaecological, Neurological, Laryngological, Rhinological and Otolological, Dermatological of Great Britain, Dermatological of London, Electro-Therapeutic, Life Assurance Officers, Anaesthetists and Epidemiological ... 12
(2) Possible Acceptances on Conditions requiring negotiation. Medical, Obstetrical, Laryngological, Odontological, Balneological, Medico-Legal, and Diseases of Children ... 7
(3) Probable Refusals. Anatomical, Medico-Psychological, and Study of Inebriety 3

With regard to this class it may be stated as extremely probable that the leading anatomists, physiologists, and alienists would be prepared to join corresponding sections after the new society was constituted.

The answers to the post-card inquiry so far received show that at least 600 members of our profession are willing to become Fellows of the new society, in addition to the existing 440 Fellows of the R.M.C.S.

We are convinced, from interviews with many individuals and from many letters, that there is a very general feeling in favour of the new society, and especially so on the part of the younger members of the profession.

It would appear that it is possible to form the new society on a lasting basis, although it may not embrace all the societies originally invited.

There are certain difficulties which will have to be met by the Organising Committee :

A.—Those which affect the procedure, etc., of the new society.

B.—Financial.

C.—Objections or suggestions raised by various societies.

A.—*Those which affect the Procedure, etc., of the New Society.*

As examples we would give the method of obtaining a Royal Charter, the name of the new society, the rules and procedure, and the method of election.

We would suggest that such questions should be left for decision until the new society has been formed. If this course were adopted much time and discussion would be saved.

B.—*Financial.*

The assets and financial position of the various societies have been ascertained with some exactitude. The revenue from subscriptions to the new society remains somewhat doubtful. The reply to the post-card referendum is suggestive, but nearly 3000 individuals have not answered. This result is in part due to the fact that some societies have not called general meetings to discuss the question at issue. Those societies which have funds and which consider the financial position of the proposed society not sufficiently sound, may not alter their opinions on the facts obtained by the replies to our post cards.

The following table shows *approximately* the assets of the various societies.

SOCIETIES WITH FUNDS.

		Approximately.
¹ Clinical	£640 Consols	£600
¹ Obstetrical	£600 Consols, £807 L.C.C. 3%, Midland Railway Debentures, £146	£1641
	North British Railway	£4500
¹ Odontological	£5200 Consols	£5000
Pathological	£854 Consols	£800
¹ Diseases of Children	£288 Consols	£200
¹ Ophthalmological	£500 Ramsgate Corporation, £525 East Indian Railway Annuities ...	£1000
¹ British Gynæcological	£6 Caledonian Railway Debentures, £270 Grand Trunk Railway Debentures	£270
² Medical Society	£637 New Zealand Stock, £277 Victoria Stock, £12,000 Leasehold and Freehold ... £12,914 Less Debentures and Loan ... 2950	10,000
² Royal Medical and Chirurgical	£326 New South Wales, Leasehold and Freehold, £51,566... £51,892 Less Debentures, etc.... ... 33,600	18,000

¹ See Appendix B, p. clviii.

² Value of contents, etc., is not included.

This table shows that the societies in possession of £1000 or upwards are the Obstetrical, Odontological, Ophthalmological, Medical, and R.M.C.S.

It is worthy of remark that these societies are also the societies which possess libraries.

It is evident from the replies of the societies that the Medical, Obstetrical, and Odontological are not prepared to "pool" their funds under suggested conditions. The Ophthalmological Society has sent no reply to us, but we understand that its members are not in favour of the amalgamation on the lines of the Executive Committee's Report.

A possible way out of the difficulty outlined above would be to place all funds brought into the amalgamation in the hands of three trustees, to be selected by the societies with funds, for a period of five years. If at the end of this time the new society was well established, from a financial standpoint, the funds could be paid over to the new society. If the financial condition of the new society was unsatisfactory at the end of five years, the funds could be paid back to their original owners.

The establishment of such a trust fund would probably save the time of the Organising Committee, and possibly attract certain societies which otherwise would refuse to join. Further, it would only be necessary for the Organising Committee to negotiate with the societies as to the allocation of the interest on the money handed by them to the trust fund, in the matter of grants for specific purposes, such as the upkeep of the Odontological Museum.

The general income of the new society from subscriptions, etc., would naturally be in the hands of its own Finance Committee.

If such a course were adopted, and the Medical Society joined the proposed amalgamation, there would be a further advantage, for the sections of the new society could then meet in both Chandos Street and Hanover Square. If at the end of five years the financial position of the new society proved to be sound, the premises of 20, Hanover Square, could be enlarged and the property in Chandos Street realised.

Against such a course as the formation of a trust fund are the obvious objections that it is expedient rather than business-like, and would lead to increased legal expenses and increased upkeep.

Another point of financial concern is the amount of subscription on the part of country members. If country members are to receive full copies of the 'Proceedings' in addition to other privileges, it is doubtful whether it would be possible to make their subscription lower than that of town members.

C.—*Objections or Suggestions raised by various Societies.*

It is impossible to give any rational sequence to these, hence we take the more important *seriatim*.

(1) The fear on the part of some societies that their corresponding sections might have their business interfered with by fellows would probably be overcome by the following:

“That all members of a society taking part in the amalgamation, who desire to do so, shall become fellows of the society without election.”

“That all members of a society taking part in the amalgamation, who desire to do so, shall become members of the corresponding section of the new society without election, whether they join as fellows or not.”

“That only original members of a section and those who are subsequently elected as members of it have power to vote on matters directly affecting the affairs of that section.”

(2) It is felt by some individuals that those members of the Medical or Royal Medical and Chirurgical Societies who did not wish to become fellows would be harshly treated if they were not allowed to join both the medical and the surgical sections of the new society at one inclusive subscription of £1 1s. per annum. There are only 260 members of the two societies who pay as little as £1 1s. in subscriptions at present; probably therefore the concession would be made to those who join at the time of the amalgamation.

(3) The admission of women to the fellowship has already been settled on the lines that at present women cannot be admitted as fellows, but that nothing in the Charter shall prevent them from being admitted at some future date.

(4) The Laryngological Society object to any one not a member of the section being allowed to examine the patients shown with a laryngoscope. This would probably be met by the formation of a laryngological club in addition to the section.

(5) The Balneological, Otological, Electro-Therapeutic, and Life Assurance Societies are unlikely to join unless they have separate sections. This point could probably be conceded.

(6) Societies with honorary fellows could be allowed as sections to continue this association with those already elected, but the election of honorary fellows to the new society cannot be dealt with until the society has been constituted.

(7) Societies with libraries are not prepared to debar from the use of them those of their members who join as members and not as fellows. Any arrangement of libraries in separate rooms, or in the bay of the existing library, would be difficult. The question might perhaps be solved on the following lines, without much financial loss:

“Existing members of those societies, viz. R.M.C.S., Medical, Ophthalmological, Obstetrical, and Odontological, which bring libraries into the amalgamation shall have the privilege of using the general library without payment of the yearly library subscription.”

(8) There are various objections raised on the questions of papers and publications.

Probably papers will in the first instance have to go to the section suggested by their author. If the Council of the section consider that other sections, or the whole society, might probably join in the discussion, they would have power to communicate with the necessary committees.

One society suggests that all papers should be in proof before being read; such a procedure would tend to prompt publication.

It does not appear feasible that the 'Proceedings' of the new society can be published separately by the sections, or in different forms, which aim at continuity with existing publications. An editorial committee must be formed for this purpose, but the printing, etc., of the 'Proceedings' can be so arranged that a member of any section can keep a record of that section alone.

Societies which own or partly own journals will probably have to make their own arrangements with regard to these, quite apart from the question of amalgamation.

REPORT OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTA- TIVES OF THE SOCIETIES.¹

Your Committee (consisting of Sir William Church, Chairman; Sir R. Douglas Powell, Dr. Champneys, Dr. Garrod, Dr. Head, Mr. Langton, Mr. Goodsall, Mr. Makins, and Mr. Symonds, together with Dr. Latham and Mr. Pendlebury as Honorary Secretaries) held its first meeting on February 8th, 1906, when Sir F. Treves (who, to the Committee's regret, was unable to serve), Dr. Allchin, Dr. Frederick Taylor, and Mr. Laurence Read were co-opted members.

Your Committee carefully considered the replies received from the various societies, which had been requested to give their views on the Report of the Committee of Representatives of December 19th, 1905, and appointed delegates to meet delegates of these societies, to negotiate with regard to any points of difference. The reports of these delegates were considered, and the suggested regulations on page 4 (*now cliv*) *et seq.* form the basis of what your Committee believes will be acceptable to the larger number of societies.

The central ideas of those who first suggested a union of societies were, that such a union would add to the prestige of British medicine, would tend to bring those engaged in special

¹ This Report was submitted at a Meeting of the General Committee of Representatives on July 17th, 1906, and adopted as amended by the alterations which are shown in footnotes.

branches of medicine or surgery into more intimate relations with those whose work was of a more general character, and would be a great convenience to the profession. Your Committee has endeavoured to meet the views of the various societies, whenever it has been possible to do so without destroying the original intentions of the Committee of Representatives. Your Committee would especially draw attention to the suggestions that—

(1) All male members of those societies which take part in the amalgamation can join the new society on its formation as members or fellows without election.

(2) All women members of a society taking part in the amalgamation, who desire to do so, shall become members of the corresponding section or sections of the new society on its formation without election.

(3) Sections of the new society shall be self-governing as far as possible, and shall have direct representatives on the Council of the society and on the Editorial Committee. The expenditure of the individual sections shall be subject to the control of the Finance Committee of the general Council.

(4) Any member of any section shall receive for his subscription a copy of the 'Proceedings,' not only of his own section, but of all sections of the Society.

Your Committee appointed a Finance Sub-Committee, consisting of Dr. Frederick Taylor (Chairman), Dr. Head, Dr. Latham, Mr. Goodsall, and Mr. Pendlebury. The report of this Sub-Committee was adopted *nem. con.* by your Committee, and is incorporated in the following pages.

If both the Medical and Royal Medical and Chirurgical Societies join the proposed union, the number of rooms which would be at once available for meetings, both for the general business of the Society and for other purposes, is as follows: at 20, Hanover Square, two meeting-rooms, and five other rooms, at present occupied by the Odontological and Obstetrical Societies; at 11, Chandos Street, two meeting-rooms and one other room, at present occupied by the Ophthalmological Society. Many of the existing leases of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society terminate in 1911, and it is probable that some other tenants could be persuaded to give up their rooms almost immediately if the above accommodation did not prove sufficient.

The Finance Report, with its explanatory appendices, shows that a balance of income over expenditure may be expected to the amount of £1200, for the provision of a fund which may be used for the redemption of existing debentures or for the formation of a building fund. It will be noticed that 1040 individuals, or 57·7 per cent. of those who answered the post-card inquiry (1800), stated that they would join as Fellows, although under present conditions only 1300 (*i. e.* 26 per cent.) of the members of societies (5000), whose accounts have been investigated, pay

more than £1 1s. per annum. In estimating the income from those who have not answered the post-card inquiry, no allowance has been made for any individuals becoming Fellows, or joining more than one section, or paying a library subscription. If, however, the 57.7 percentage were maintained amongst those who may be expected to join, although they did not answer the post-card inquiry, the balance of income over expenditure would be increased by $(1557 \times £2\ 2s.)$ £3269—*i. e.* would become £4469.

It is necessary to explain why your Committee has included an estimate of income and expenditure excluding the Medical Society. The representatives of the Medical Society on your Committee are not disposed to accept the valuation which has been twice placed on the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society's property by independent valuers. Accordingly it was suggested that the Presidents of the Medical and Royal Medical and Chirurgical Societies should together appoint a valuer to make a further valuation. The Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society intimated their willingness to agree to this suggestion, provided that the Medical Society would bind itself to join the proposed union in the event of the present valuation of the property of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society being confirmed. The Medical Society has had this offer before it for some time, but up to the present has sent no answer.

The expenses of the Executive Committee and of this Committee have been, or will be, met by the various societies which have representatives on the Committee of Representatives, with the exception of the Society for the Study of Disease in Children, which so far has declined to pay its estimated share.

Your Committee is of opinion that a union of societies on the lines laid down in the following pages would be successful, and that the aims of those who initiated the movement would be realised. Your Committee suggests that this Report should be laid before the various societies, and that those societies which approve it should each appoint¹ a representative to form a committee, to draw up rules, and to deal with the necessary formalities of amalgamation. Your Committee further suggests that these representatives should form the first Council of the new society and have power to co-opt other members.

SUGGESTED REGULATIONS, TOGETHER WITH CERTAIN FINANCIAL DETAILS.

Title of Society.

The decision with regard to the title of the new society, and such questions as the election of fellows and rules of procedure, shall be left to the vote of those societies which amalgamate.

¹ At the Meeting of the General Committee on July 17th, 1906, the words "before December 7th next" were inserted here.

Housing.

The society shall be housed at 20, Hanover Square, and at 11, Chandos Street.

Constitution.

The society shall consist of fellows, honorary fellows, members¹ and honorary members.¹

All male members of a society taking part in the amalgamation, who desire to do so, shall become fellows of the new society without election.

An original fellow of the new society shall have no power to vote in the business of any section unless he is an original member of that section, or unless he has been duly elected to it subsequent to the formation of the new society.

All members of a society taking part in the amalgamation who desire to do so shall become original members of the corresponding section without election, whether they join as fellows or as members.

Members of a society taking part in the amalgamation cannot become members of any section or sections, other than those which correspond to the society or societies to which they belong at present, unless they are duly elected members of such sections after the formation of the new society.

All women members of a society taking part in the amalgamation, who desire to do so, shall become members of sections of the new society in precisely the same manner as male members.

Honorary members of any society taking part in the amalgamation shall retain their present privileges, but the election of honorary fellows of the new society must be left until the society is formed.

The society shall consist of the following sections which represent existing societies, but the society shall have power to add new sections, or to modify existing ones with the consent of the members :

- (1) Anæsthetic.
- (2) Balneological and Climatological.
- (3) Clinical.
- (4) Dermatological.
- (5) Diseases of Children.
- (6) Electro-Therapeutical.
- (7) Epidemiological.
- (8) Laryngological.
- ² (9) Medical.

¹ At the Meeting on July 17th, after "members" and after "honorary members" the words "of sections" were inserted.

² At the Meeting on July 17th a section for Life Insurance was adopted. In the final list therefore it appears as No. 9, Medical as No. 10, and so on.

- (10) Neurological.
- (11) Obstetrical and Gynæcological.
- (12) Odontological.
- (13) Ophthalmological.
- (14) Otological.
- (15) Pathological.
- (16) Surgical.
- (17) Therapeutical.

It is hoped that in the early future an anatomical and physiological section and a section of preventive medicine may be formed.

The Medico-Psychological Association and the Medico-Legal Society, although not at present able to form sections in the new society, hope to do so in the future.

Finance.

The entire management of the funds of the society shall be in the hands of a finance committee, subject to and acting as a sub-committee of the general council.

Those societies which bring in property, together with a library, namely, the Medical, Royal Medical and Chirurgical, Obstetrical, Ophthalmological, and Odontological Societies, shall each choose a direct representative, who shall have a seat on the first finance committee of the new society.

The invested funds and other property of any society joining in the amalgamation shall at once become the property of the new society.

All funds left in trust for prizes and lectureships shall remain in trust and shall at once become the property of the new society, which shall administer them in the terms of the existing trusts.

ESTIMATE OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF THE NEW SOCIETY WITH EXPLANATORY APPENDICES.

ESTIMATE OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

I.—Including the Medical Society.

		£	s.	d.
<i>Income.</i> ¹				
(A) From Subscriptions	6800	0	0	
(B) From Investments	350	0	0	
(C) From Rents—				
(a) Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society	2000	0	0	
(b) Medical Society	700	0	0	
From Entrance Fees	150	0	0	
	£10,000	0	0	

¹ An estimated income from advertisements in the 'Proceedings,' amounting to £555, has been ignored for the moment.

<i>Expenditure.</i>		£	s.	d.
Interest on £33,300 Debentures at 3 per cent. R.M.C.S. ...		999	0	0
Interest on £2300 4 per cent. Debentures Medical Society...		92	0	0
(D) Maintenance—				
(a) R.M.C.S.		2050	0	0
(b) Medical Society		900	0	0
Library—				
(a) R.M.C.S.		600	0	0
(b) Medical Society		25	0	0
(E) 'Proceedings' of the new society, 10 issues per annum, including cost of distribution and illustrations		2286	0	0
Editor		500	0	0
Increase of salaried officials (at present £1048)		500	0	0
¹ Additional expenses for printing, stationery, library, sectional meetings, and other contingencies		848	0	0
Balance for Depreciation, Reserve and Building Fund, and Redemption of Debentures		1200	0	0
		<u>£10,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

¹ On an average of ten years these additional expenses amounted to £457.

(F) ESTIMATE OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

II.—*Excluding the Medical Society.*

<i>Income.</i>		£	s.	d.
From Subscriptions		6527	0	0
From Investments... ..		350	0	0
From Rents... ..		2000	0	0
Entrance Fees		150	0	0
		<u>£9027</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<i>Expenditure.</i>		£	s.	d.
Debentures R.M.C.S.		999	0	0
Maintenance R.M.C.S.		2050	0	0
Library R.M.C.S.		600	0	0
'Proceedings' of new society		2286	0	0
Editor		500	0	0
Increase of salaried officials		500	0	0
Additional meeting expenses, extra printing, stationery, library, and contingencies		848	0	0
Balance		1244	0	0
		<u>£9027</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

APPENDIX A.

INCOME FROM SUBSCRIPTIONS OF THE NEW SOCIETY.

		£	s.	d.
Present reply post-cards show :				
1040 fellows at £3 3s.		3276	0	0
150 two or more sections		315	0	0
300 one section... ..		315	0	0
30 one section and Library		63	0	0
		<u>£3969</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
1520 total promised per annum		<u>£3969</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Out of 5000, 1800 have replied, viz. 1520, as above; the others are doubtful, dead, gone away, compounded, country, and refusals.

The Medico-Psychological Association will not join at present. This has 500 members who belong to no other society.

There are left, therefore, $5000 - 2300 = 2700$ members who will come in as members of sections, or possibly as fellows, if their society joins.

Total income from subscriptions:

	£	s.	d.
(1) Promised as above	3969	0	0
(2) Join with their society as members	2835	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£6804	0	0

N.B.—These figures may be increased, for—

(1) The Medico-Legal Society is not included in these figures, nor the Anatomical, nor the Physiological Society, although either may join in the future.

(2) Many counted above as refusals or doubtful will join if their society joins.

(3) All the fellows of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society have not answered the post-card.

(4) A certain proportion of the 2700 included as *members* may reasonably be expected to join as *fellows*.

APPENDIX B.

INVESTMENTS.

	£	s.	d.
Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, New South Wales			
Stock	326	7	0
Mr. Gant's Legacy	500	0	0
Gynæcological Society, Railway Stock	255	0	0
Clinical Society, Consols	668	0	0
Obstetrical Society, Consols and L.C.C.	2550	0	0
Odontological Society, Consols	5070	0	0
Ophthalmological Society, Consols	520	0	0
Pathological Society, Consols	800	0	0
Children's Society, Consols	341	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£11,030	7	0

It is probable that some changes have taken place in these investments since the auditors went through the accounts.

APPENDIX C.

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

Memorandum re Tenancies.

<i>Tenants.</i>	<i>Rent.</i>	<i>Term.</i>
*1.	£200	21 years from 1890.
2.	170	21 years from 1890.
3.	65	21 years from 1904.
4.	45	Yearly.
*5.	52	Yearly.
6.	230	21 years from 1890.
*7.	105	Yearly.
8.	75	5 years from 1904.

PROPOSED UNION OF MEDICAL SOCIETIES

clix

<i>Tenants.</i>	<i>Rent.</i>	<i>Term.</i>
9.	£15	Yearly.
10.	165	7 years from 1904.
11.	25	Yearly.
12.	350	66½ years from 1890.
13.	150	Yearly.
*14.	42	3 years from 1905.
15.	21	Yearly.
16.	130	21 years from 1890.
*17.	21	3 years from 1905.
*18.	73	Yearly.
19.	70	Yearly.
*20.	12	Yearly.
*21.	273	21, 28, or 35 years from 1901.
22.	26	3 years from 1905.
23.	58	Yearly.
24.	70	3 years from 1902.
25.	160	7, 14, or 21 years from 1902.
26.	162	7, 14, or 21 years from 1902.
	£2765	
Sundry lettings of meet- ing-rooms, average ...	65	
	<u>£2830</u>	

* Are societies willing to take part in the union after negotiation, and are therefore excluded from our estimate of income from rents.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

Income derived from Rents and Occasional Lettings.

	£	s.	d.
1. On lease expiring in 1914...	250	0	0
2. " " " " 1915...	160	0	0
3. Annual tenancy ...	70	7	6
*4. " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	80	0	0
5. " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	40	0	0
6. " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	45	0	0
7. " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	5	5	0
*8. " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	16	16	0
*9. " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	21	0	0
*10. " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	15	15	0
11. " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	10	10	0
12. " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	24	0	0
13. " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	5	5	0
14. On lease expiring in 1909...	90	0	0
	833	18	6
Occasional lettings ...	110	0	0
	<u>£943</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>6</u>

* Are societies willing to join in the union after negotiation and are excluded from our estimate.

Income derived from Rents and Occasional Lettings and Fellows' Subscriptions for the past Five Years.

	<i>Fellows' Subscriptions.</i>			<i>Rents and Occasional Lettings.</i>		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1900-1901 Session	532	16	0	876	16	0
1901-1902 „	552	16	6	886	0	6
1902-1903 „	543	18	0	895	12	6
1903-1904 „	599	0	6	944	18	0
1904-1905 „	603	3	6	954	1	10

In our estimate of income from rents we have also excluded occasional lettings, though it is probable that this source of income will remain after the new society is formed.

APPENDIX D.

MAINTENANCE.—ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

	£	s.	d.
Rent, Rates, Taxes, and Insurance	198	0	0
Salaries of Staff and Accountant	704	0	0
House Servants, Porters, Cleaners	352	0	0
Lighting, Warming, and Cleaning	192	0	0
Printing and Stationery, Stamps	251	0	0
Meeting Expenses	43	0	0
Repairs and Alterations	141	0	0
Telephone	15	0	0
Lift	34	0	0
Miscellaneous Disbursements	55	0	0
Audit Fee	10	10	0
Architect's Fees	16	16	0
	<hr/>		
	£2012	6	0

MAINTENANCE.—MEDICAL SOCIETY.

	£	s.	d.
Rent, Rates and Taxes	460	0	0
Salaries, Wages, and Annuity	235	0	0
Meeting Expenses	15	0	0
Repairs	20	0	0
Printing	25	0	0
Lighting, Heating, and Cleaning	90	0	0
Miscellaneous	55	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£900	0	0

APPENDIX E.

MONTHLY 'PROCEEDINGS'—COST.

	£	s.	d.
Cost of composing 256 pages small pica solid, supplying paper, printing, and binding in wrapper (small type footnotes and tabular matter extra). 6,000 copies at £8 8s. a sheet of 16 pages	134	8	0
Allowance for corrections at 1s. 6d. per page	19	4	0
Cost of distribution at 2d. a copy	50	0	0
Allowance for illustrations	25	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£228	12	0

Therefore cost of ten issues ... £2286.

Note.—Number of words per page, 610; estimated output of words 1,561,600. The annual output of words under present conditions is estimated at 1,580,000.

APPENDIX F.

FINANCE, EXCLUDING MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Loss of Income.

	£	s.	d.
260 Fellows of Medical Society belonging to that Society only	273	0	0
Rents, as per estimate Appendix C.	700	0	0
	£973	0	0

Decrease of Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Maintenance, as per estimate	900	0	0
Library	25	0	0
Interest on debentures	92	0	0
	£1017	0	0

The society will also be relieved of the redemption of £2300 4 per cent. debentures. But there will be two meeting-rooms and one other room *less* for the purposes of the new Society.

APPENDIX G.

MEMBERS OF VARIOUS SOCIETIES WHO BELONG TO ONLY ONE SOCIETY.

British Balneological and Climatological Society	236
British Electro-Therapeutic Society	107
British Gynæcological Society	320
Clinical Society of London	131
Dermatological Society of Great Britain and Ireland	35
Dermatological Society of London	9
Epidemiological Society of London	121
Laryngological, Rhinological and Otological Association	37
Laryngological Society of London	49
Life Assurance Medical Officers' Association	25
Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland	514
Medical Society of London	260
Neurological Society of the United Kingdom	73
Obstetrical Society of London	354
Odontological Society of Great Britain... ..	364
Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom	311
Otological Society	21
Pathological Society of London	219
Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London	203
Society of Anæsthetists	52
Society for the Study of Disease in Children	135
Therapeutical Society	137
	3713

General Government of the Society.

The general management of the Society shall be under the control of a General Council, consisting of the President, the Presidents of the various sections, two Treasurers, two Librarians, two Secretaries, and eight other fellows.

The Society shall meet from time according as the Council shall direct —

- (1) To discuss the general business of the Society.
- (2) To discuss subjects of medical and scientific interest.

After the formation of the new society the fellowship of the society shall be restricted to men who are registered medical practitioners of the British Empire, and to men whose scientific attainments are satisfactory to the General Council.

On the formation of the new society women shall not become fellows, but care shall be taken that nothing in the constitution of the new society shall prevent the society from passing the necessary bye-laws for the purpose of admitting them as fellows in the future.

A fellow shall pay, subject to any future bye-law, an annual subscription of £3 3s., and shall have the right to attend all meetings of the society or of any of its sections, and shall have full use of the library. After the society is constituted (*i. e.* after a date to be subsequently determined) a new fellow shall pay an entrance fee.

It is not thought advisable to have a lower subscription for country fellows than for town fellows at present.

Government of Sections.

Each section shall have the power to elect as members of the section such persons as the Council of the section may think fit, provided that the names of the candidates proposed for election be previously submitted by the Sectional Council to the Council of the society for its approval.

Only original members of a section, and those who are subsequently elected as members of it, shall have the power to vote on matters affecting the internal affairs of that section.

Each section shall have power to make the necessary laws and regulations for the conduct of its internal affairs.

In each section the papers shall be submitted to the Council of the section before they are accepted for reading.

The Council of each section shall have sole power to decide whether a paper submitted to it shall be read before that section.

In the event of the Council of a section considering that a particular paper might be discussed with advantage by two or more sections, or by the whole society, it shall have power to transmit the paper to the General Council for this purpose.

Presidents of sections shall be the Vice-Presidents of the society *ex officio* and shall serve on the General Council of the society.

A member of any particular section shall pay, subject to any future bye-law, £1 1s. per annum, and shall have the right to

attend all the meetings of his section, but must pay an additional £1 1s. per annum if he wishes to have the use of the library, and a further subscription of 10s. 6d. per annum for each additional section.

It is not thought desirable to have a lower subscription for country members than for town members at present.

In virtue of their bringing their libraries into the amalgamation the existing fellows and members of the Medical, Obstetrical, Odontological, and Ophthalmological Societies shall have the privilege of using the library of the new society without payment of the annual library subscription.

The Odontological library and museum shall be kept separate, and shall be open to members of the Odontological, and to fellows of the new, society.

Fellows of the Medical Society or of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society who join the new society as fellows shall be original members of both the medical and surgical sections.

Fellows of the Medical Society who belong to that Society *only* shall be permitted to join both the medical and surgical sections at an inclusive annual subscription of one guinea.

The Presidents of the Medical and Royal Medical and Chirurgical Societies at the time of the formation of the new society shall have seats on the first council in addition to the direct representatives of their Societies.

The first Council shall elect the officers and Councils of the medical and surgical sections of the new society as far as possible from those who hold office at the time of union in the Medical and Royal Medical and Chirurgical Societies.

The governing bodies of other sections shall be elected by the original members of the individual sections.

Publications.

There shall be ten monthly issues of a publication to be called 'The Proceedings of the —— Society.'

The 'Proceedings' shall contain as full a record as possible of the society's work during the previous month, and individual papers shall be condensed only with the sanction of the Council of the section before which they have been read.

The record of the work of the sections shall be adequately illustrated.

The 'Proceedings' shall be printed in such a way that the 'Proceedings' of any section may be bound separately at the end of the year.

As far as possible all papers shall be in proof before being read.

Care shall be taken to respect the exchange list of the present societies when they become sections of the new society.

Each society joining the amalgamation shall send its exchange

list to the editorial committee, which at the end of each year shall forward to those on this list separate copies of the 'Proceedings' of the sections concerned.

Members of sections who desire to do so shall be able to obtain from the editor at the end of each year separately bound copies of the 'Proceedings' of a particular section, provided that they give notice of their wish to do so before the publication of the first copy, and that they pay for the cost of binding.

Societies which own or partly own journals shall make their own arrangements with regard to these quite apart from the question of amalgamation.

It is hoped that when the society has been constituted the most valuable papers may be collected together into an annual volume of 'Transactions.'

The entire management of the publication of the monthly 'Proceedings' of the new society shall be in the hands of an editorial committee.

The editorial committee shall consist of one representative of each section, together with an editor, and shall work in conjunction with the Councils of the various sections.

(Signed) W. S. CHURCH,
Chairman.

July 6th, 1906.

ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY
OF LONDON,

HELD IN THE SOCIETY'S HOUSE, No. 20, HANOVER SQUARE

Friday, March 1st, 1907, at 5 p.m.

J. WARRINGTON HAWARD, F.R.C.S., President.

HOWARD H. TOOTH, M.D., C.M.G., } Hon. Secs.
STEPHEN PAGET, }

J. Y. W. MAC ALISTER, Secretary.

Present—31 Fellows.

The PRESIDENT nominated Dr. Clifford Beale and Mr. Laurence Read as scrutineers of the ballot, and declared the ballot open until 6 o'clock.

The SENIOR HONORARY SECRETARY read the Report of the Council (see page lxxxvii).

The SENIOR HONORARY TREASURER submitted the Audited Statement of Accounts, together with the Report of the Treasurers thereon (see page xcii).

RESOLVED on the motion of the PRESIDENT:

“That the Report of the Council, together with the Treasurers' Statement of Accounts be adopted.”

The PRESIDENT read the Annual Address (see page xcvi).

On the motion of Sir THOMAS SMITH, seconded by Mr.

KIALLMARK:

RESOLVED :

“That the best thanks of the Society be given to the President for his Address, and that he be requested to allow its publication in the ‘Transactions.’”

On the motion of Sir DYCE DUCKWORTH, seconded by Dr. SIDNEY COUPLAND.

RESOLVED :

“That the best thanks of the Society be given to the retiring Vice-Presidents, Dr. Thomas Buzzard and Dr. J. F. Payne, for their valuable services during their respective terms of office.”

On the motion of Dr. EASTES, seconded by Dr. RICE :

RESOLVED :

“That the best thanks of the Society be given to the retiring Members of Council, Dr. Sidney Martin, Dr. William Pasteur, Mr. Clinton Dent, Dr. H. R. Fuller, for their valuable services during their respective terms of office.”

The Scrutineers of the Ballot reported that the following officers and other members of Council had been elected :

President.—J. Warrington Haward.

Vice-Presidents.—Sir Thomas Lauder Brunton, M.D., F.R.S. ; T. Henry Green, M.D. ; W. Harrison Cripps ; Herbert William Page, M.C.

Hon. Treasurers.—Sir William Selby Church, Bart., K.C.B., M.D. ; Alfred Pearce Gould, M.S.

Hon. Secretaries.—Howard Henry Tooth, C.M.G., M.D. ; Stephen Paget.

Hon. Librarians.—Norman Moore, M.D. ; Rickman John Godlee, M.S.

Members of Council.—Theodore Dyke Acland, M.D. ; Edwin Clifford Beale, M.B. ; Dudley Wilmot Buxton, M.D. ; Philip Frank, M.D. ; George Ogilvie, M.B. ; John Bland-Sutton ; Andrew Clark ; Walter H. H. Jessop, M.B. ; Bilton Pollard, M.B., B.S. ; James J. MacWhirter Dunbar, M.D.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL
 TO THE
 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,
Held 1st March, 1907

NINETEEN HUNDRED and SIX, the hundred and first year of the Society's existence, was fully equal to any previous year in the steady progress made by the Society, both in scientific work and in material strength. At the present moment the numerical strength of the Society is represented by—

29 Honorary Fellows.
 835 Ordinary „

Making a total of 864 Fellows.

The Council, as last year, again desire to remind Fellows that the regulations provide for the exhibition and demonstration of interesting cases, new apparatus, and, in fact, anything likely to be of interest to the Fellows at the Ordinary Meetings before the reading of papers. There are no formalities to discourage such exhibitions and demonstrations; all that is necessary is to inform the Honorary Secretaries beforehand, and if this information be given in sufficient time the demonstrations will be announced in the journals. The Council feel that it would add greatly to the interest of the meetings if such demonstrations were more frequent, and they urge Fellows to avail themselves as often as possible of the privilege.

On the suggestion of Dr. Payne, the Council have approved of holding meetings for the discussion of his-

being £4427 9s. 2d. against £4478 15s. 8d. for 1905.

- “The volume of ‘Transactions’ for the year was unusually costly, and accounts for the balance of excess of income over expenditure for the year being less than the Treasurers hoped.
- “£200 has been invested in New South Wales 4 per cent. stock to form the nucleus of a sinking fund, the interest on which is to be added to the capital as it falls due.
- “The freehold and leasehold property of the Society, which has stood in our accounts since 1896 as worth £51,566 11s. 6d., has been lately valued by an independent valuer, who placed its value in excess of that sum, and reported that the whole of the premises were in good substantial repair.”

Report of the Honorary Librarians :

- “The new card catalogue is now complete and in working order, and gives general satisfaction to those who consult the Library.
- “The number of books and pamphlets added to the Library for the past year, 1906, has been 590, of which 181 were presented by Fellows and others.
- “The number of Fellows visiting the Library was 3630.
- “The total number of books and journals borrowed was 3679.
- “From Lewis’s Library 405 volumes were borrowed.
- “The Library has been well used both for reference and circulating purposes during the past year.
- “It has been suggested that the income arising from the Gant Bequest should be spent on the purchases of medical, surgical, and other works of permanent interest.

“The design for a simple book-plate to be placed in the books thus purchased will shortly be decided upon.”

Report of the House Committee :

“It is satisfactory to find that the statement made in our last Report, as to the general condition of the Society's house, has been confirmed by an independent surveyor.

“Your Committee instructed the London Sanitary Protection Association to make a thorough investigation of the drainage system and of the whole of the sanitary apparatus of the house. The Report stated that the work that was done by the original Building Committee in 1889 is still in excellent condition ; but some additional work was recommended in order to bring the system up to the latest standards in sanitary science. This work is now almost completed.”

STATEMENT OF LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, 31ST DECEMBER, 1906

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LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.	ASSETS.	£	s.	d.
3 per Cent. First Mortgage Debentures	33,200	0	0	Freehold and Leasehold Property as per valuation of Messrs. Giddy and Giddy, 2nd June, 1896	51,150	0	0
[The Debenture Debt has been reduced by £100 since the previous statement, by the Redemption of One Debenture.]				Subsequent additions	416	11	6
Sundry Liabilities	1,438	18	7	Fixtures, Fittings, and Furniture Additions during year	1,393	3	7
Balance, being Surplus of Assets over Liabilities, viz.—	£29,167	4	0	Less 5 per cent. written off for depreciation of Fixtures, etc.	69	13	3
Balance, 31st Dec., 1905	£29,167	4	0	Engravings (as per Valuation of Mr. F. B. Daniell, Aug. 19, 1896). Contents of Library (as per Valuation)	199	6	9
Appreciation of Investments	28	12	0	Investments in New South Wales 4 per Cent. Inscribed Stock Debenture Redemption Fund, £185 8s. 10d. valued at	355	12	6
Excess of Income over Ex- penditure for the year 1906	180	11	9	Permanent Endowment Fund, £330 16s. 3d. valued at	554	19	3
Balance, 31st Dec., 1906	£29,376	7	9	Sundry Debtors for Rents and Outstanding Subscriptions	518	0	7
				Cash at Bank and in hand	359	12	5
					£64,015	6	4

Audited and approved,
NEWSON-SMITH, LORD & MUNDY,
Chartered Accountants,
5th February, 1907.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1906

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

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Expenditure	£	s.	d.	Income	£	s.	d.
Rent, Rates, Taxes, and Insurance ...	179	12	10	449 Annual Subscriptions at £3 3s. 14d. 7 0			
Salaries of Staff and Accountant ...	706	5	0	do. £1 1s. 15d. 10 0	157	10	0
House Servants, Cleaners, etc. ...	361	11	0	Composition Fees ...			1571 17 0
Lighting, Warming, and Cleaning ...	186	17	10	Entrance Fees ...			39 18 0
Printing, Stationery, Stamps and Telegrams ...	290	0	1	Rents Receivable ...			81 18 0
Meeting Expenses ...	53	9	10	Sale of 'Transactions' ...			2602 7 0
Miscellaneous Disbursements ...	64	7	9	„ 'Climates and Baths' ...			54 7 3
Repairs, Alterations, etc. ...	1842	4	4	Interest : Permanent Endowment			11 7 11
Depreciation of Fixtures, Fittings, etc. ...	226	17	2	Fund ...			12 11 4
Library Purchases and Expenses ...	69	13	3	Miscellaneous Receipts :			
Interest on Debentures ...	454	6	0	Interest on Deposit ...			6 11 0
'Transactions' ...	995	15	3	Fees for use of Epidiascope ...			27 8 0
Audit Fee ...	771	8	6	Westminster Fire Office on trans- fer of Policy ...			191 5 7
Telephone ...	10	10	0	Grant Bequest : Interest ...			8 9 10
Lift Charges ...	17	8	11				£4608 0 11
Balance, being excess of Income over Expenditure during the year ...	180	11	9				<u>£4608 0 11</u>

Audited and approved,

NEWSON-SMITH, LORD & MUNDY,
Chartered Accountants.

W. S. CHURCH, }
A. PEARCE GOULD, } Hon. Treasurers.

5th February, 1907.

PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND.

[Established and contributed to by the Donations of Fellows.]

From Sir Richard Quain	£100	Forward	£250
„ Mr. Edward Law Hussey	50	From Mr. Edwin Unwin Berry	124
„ Sir Richard Douglas Powell	100	„ Dr. Fitzpatrick	5
	<u>£250</u>		<u>£379</u>

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Invested in £330 16s. 3d. (par value) New South Wales Inscribed 4 per Cent. Stock “A” a/c.

MARSHALL HALL MEMORIAL FUND.

[Being the amount subscribed for a Memorial to Marshall Hall. Every five years the accumulated interest is given as a Prize for the best published work on Nervous Diseases.]

Consols in trust on Dec. 31st, 1905 (<i>par value</i>)	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Interest for 1906 (added to Fund)	615	11	1	631	14	5
„	16	3	4			
	<u>£631</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>5</u>			

INVESTMENTS

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(GANT BEQUEST (£500).

[Being a sum of £500 bequeathed to the Society by the late Fredk. James Gant (sometime Vice-President of the Society) to be invested and the income to be spent on books to be marked “Gant Bequest.”]

Invested in £510 17s. 1d. (*par value*) Southern Nigeria (Lagos) 3½ per Cent. Inscribed Stock.

DEBENTURE REDEMPTION FUND.

(New South Wales Inscribed 4 per Cent. Stock “B” a/c.)

1906.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
July 18th. 1st Investment to purchase (<i>par value</i>)	182	4	8	200	0	0	
Interest for 1906, to purchase (<i>par value</i>)	3	4	2	3	9	3	
	<u>£203</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>3</u>				
				Amount of Stock on 31st Dec.	185	8	10
				Interest accrued and invested	3	9	3
				Costs of purchase and difference between “par” and purchase price	14	11	2
					<u>£203</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>3</u>

ADDRESS
OF
J. WARRINGTON HAWARD
PRESIDENT
AT THE
ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 1st, 1907

In connection with the proposed union of Medical Societies some doubt was expressed as to the accuracy of the estimate of our assets, and the Medical Society of London asked to be allowed to have, at their expense, an independent valuation of the Society's premises, the valuer to be nominated by the Presidents of the two Societies. Your Council acceded to this request, and the President of the Medical Society proposed and I agreed that the valuation should be made by Messrs. Elliott, Son and Boyton, a firm well known to be experienced in the estimation of property in this neighbourhood. By the courtesy of the Medical Society we have been furnished with a copy of this report, which is eminently satisfactory, inasmuch as the value of our freehold and leasehold property is estimated at £53,275, which exceeds, by £1709,

the amount which appears in our statement of assets. Moreover, the report states that the buildings are maintained in "good substantial repair," and are "good for many years to come."

The papers read before the Society have been of great interest and value, and a discussion upon "The Operative Treatment of Non-malignant Ulcer of the Stomach and its Chief Complications, with Indications, Limitations, and Ultimate Results," introduced by Dr. Hale White and Mr. Mayo Robson, was maintained during three evenings.

This discussion was largely attended, and showed the advantage of considering this important subject from both the Medical and Chirurgical points of view.

Dr. Payne's suggestion adopted by the Council "that one ordinary meeting in each Session may be set apart for papers and discussions on the 'History and Antiquities of Medicine,' and for the exhibition of books, MSS, works of art, instruments, or other objects illustrating these topics" will doubtless lead to the production of much interesting material.

It will be remembered that Sir Richard Douglas Powell, in his Presidential Address at the Annual Meeting in 1905, raised again the question of a possible union of the Medical Societies of London.¹ The proposal was very favourably received, and a resolution was carried "That the Council of the Society be requested, with as little delay as possible, to invite the leading Medical Societies of London to arrange for a joint meeting for the purpose of considering the advisability of amalgamating, and to take the necessary preliminary steps for that purpose."² In accordance with this resolution the President of the Royal College of Physicians, Sir William Church, was asked to convene a meeting at the Royal College of Physicians to consider the proposal. This meeting was held on April 10th, 1905,³ and, as a result, a Committee

¹ See 'Transactions,' vol. lxxxviii, p. cxxvi.

² See 'Transactions,' vol. lxxxviii, p. xevii.

³ See 'Transactions,' vol. lxxxviii, p. clxxxvii.

was appointed to make the necessary inquiries, and to draw up a scheme of union to present to the various Societies for their consideration.

The report of this Committee¹ was considered at a Special General Meeting of our Society on November 23rd, 1905,² and with some modification was adopted, and the Council was authorised to take the necessary steps for carrying into effect the proposed union of other Societies with the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society.

I am glad to say that the arrangements for effecting this union and for the constitution of the new Society are approaching completion.

The course advised by Mr. Palmer, K.C., to whom the question was submitted, is that the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society should petition the King for a supplementary Charter changing the name of the Society to the desired fresh name, modifying its regulations so as to suit the new circumstances and providing for the union with it of the other Societies. This advice has been acted upon and a Petition in due form has been sent to the office of the Privy Council.

It must, I think, be admitted that in consenting to take part in the union we are giving up some of our privileges for the welfare of the larger body which will form the new Society, but I need hardly assure the Fellows that every care has been and will be taken by your representatives on the Organising Committee to safeguard the rights of the Fellows of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society.

The chief matter remaining for settlement is the transference of the security for the Debenture Loan to the proposed new Society, upon which the interest of the Loan will, of course, be a first charge. The security is ample and remains unchanged, so that it would seem that there should be no insuperable difficulty as to the transference.

The Trustees for the Debenture-holders have, moreover,

¹ See 'Transactions,' vol. lxxxviii, p. ccvii.

² See 'Transactions,' vol. lxxxviii, p. ccxv.

been authorised by the Council to obtain a separate legal opinion as to their responsibilities in this matter.

“Alteration,” says Hooker,¹ “though it be from worse to better, hath in it inconveniences, and those weighty,” but I think you will agree that we ought not to grudge some trouble or temporary disturbance if the result is the furtherance of the objects for which our Society was founded.

One important difference between our profession and an ordinary trade is that while in trade competition often appears to be a healthy and beneficial stimulus, in our profession infinitely greater advantages are to be obtained from friendly co-operation.

Moreover, now that our work has become so complex and extended that some sub-division is inevitable, there is the increasing danger of contentment with a narrow and restricted view; as an antidote to which it is much to be desired that in whatever department of practice we may be engaged, we should be in touch with the work of our colleagues in other directions.

These advantages, it may reasonably be expected, will be promoted by the contemplated union. And so, gentlemen, although this may be the last Annual Meeting of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society as such, we shall hope that, strengthened by our association with its other constituents, widened by the incorporation of bodies of diverse interests, and invigorated by the infusion of fresh energy, we shall add to the caution and experience of age, the enthusiasm and activity of youth, and take a part in the advancement of our art not unworthy of the record of our Society during the past hundred years.

I have only further to add the expression of my indebtedness to all the Honorary Officers of the Society for their constant assistance and support, and to our Secretary, Mr. MacAlister, for his skilful and indefatigable care of all the interests of the Society.

¹ ‘Ecc. Polity,’ B. iv, § 14.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

OF THE

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY
OF LONDON,

HELD AT THE SOCIETY'S HOUSE, No. 20, HANOVER SQUARE,

Friday, June 14th, 1907, at 5 o'clock.

WARRINGTON HAWARD, F.R.C.S., President.

HOWARD H. TOOTH, M.D., C.M.G., }
STEPHEN PAGET, } Hon. Secs.

J. Y. W. MAC ALISTER, Secretary.

Present—45 Fellows.

The PRESIDENT.—Gentlemen, you are asked to attend this meeting to-day for the purpose of considering, and, if thought fit, of passing the following resolution, which I will read to you :

“That the Supplemental Charter graciously granted to the Society by His Majesty the King be and the same is hereby dutifully accepted.”

You will remember that we were advised by Mr. Palmer, the King's Counsel whom we consulted, that the simplest way of effecting the proposed union of societies was to petition the King to grant us a Supplemental Charter conferring the necessary powers for that purpose. We did so, and, as you are aware, the King has been graciously pleased to grant this Charter, which I have now the pleasure of presenting to you. And what I

ask you now to do is to consider, and, if you please, to pass the resolution, the terms of which I have read to you.

I move from the Chair that this resolution be accepted and passed.

The resolution was then put, and carried unanimously.

The President then continued—

And now, Gentlemen, having passed that resolution dutifully accepting the Supplemental Charter granted by the King, our Society, by virtue of the powers therein conferred, becomes the

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE,

with new powers.

And thus the idea, first started in 1808, revived in 1860, and again in 1870, of an union of this with other Medical Societies of London has at last been realised.

Of the origin and development of the present scheme I spoke in my address to you at the Annual Meeting in March. I will only, therefore, now remind you that the question of a possible union of the Medical Societies of London was raised by my predecessor in this Chair, Sir Richard Douglas Powell, in his Presidential Address in 1905.¹ The suggestion was very favourably received, and a resolution was carried "That the Council of the Society be requested, with as little delay as possible, to invite the leading Medical Societies of London to arrange for a joint meeting for the purpose of considering the advisability of amalgamating, and to take the necessary preliminary steps for that purpose."² In accordance with this resolution the President of the Royal College of Physicians, Sir William Church, was asked to convene a meeting at the Royal College of Physicians to consider the proposal. This meeting was held on April 10th, 1905,³ and, as a result, a Committee was appointed to

¹ See 'Transactions,' vol. lxxxviii, p. cxxvi.

² See 'Transactions,' vol. lxxxviii, p. xevii.

³ See 'Transactions,' vol. lxxxviii, p. clxxxvii.

make the necessary inquiries, and to draw up a scheme of union to present to the various Societies for their consideration.

The report of this Committee¹ was considered at a Special General Meeting of our Society on November 23rd, 1905,² and with some modification was adopted, and the Council was authorised to take the necessary steps for carrying into effect the proposed union of other Societies with the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society.

We thereupon petitioned the King for a Supplemental Charter changing the name of the Society to the desired new name, modifying its regulations so as to suit the new circumstances and providing for the union with it of the other societies, and this the King was graciously pleased to grant.

Fourteen other societies eventually agreed to join, and a committee was formed of representatives of these societies, with Sir William Church as Chairman, to arrange the terms of union, the new constitution of the Society, and the by-laws by which it should be governed.

This Committee has recently completed its labours, and the resolutions for carrying its recommendations into effect will be submitted to the meeting of Fellows to be held immediately in the next room.

This will therefore be the last meeting of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, under the existing constitution.

Gentlemen, there would be something a little melancholy in contemplating the dissolution of a society which had an honourable record. But our Society is not dying, it is only joining hands with a number of other societies to pass into a fresh stage of existence, wherein we may hope that its good work will still be recognisable and long maintained.

Two years ago, when the Society attained its hundredth year, you received the admirable record of its

¹ See 'Transactions,' vol. lxxxviii, p. cevii.

² See 'Transactions,' vol. lxxxviii, p. cexv.

history and work produced by the joint labours of Dr. Norman Moore and Mr. Stephen Paget, so that there is no need for me to attempt any such retrospect.

But a perusal of that volume will afford you convincing evidence of the usefulness of our Society, for you will see that our 'Transactions' contain the record of many of the most important contributions made to medicine and surgery during the last hundred years.

It seems to me, indeed, that those ninety volumes will form the best possible memorial of our Society's life.

Gentlemen, I shall always look upon it as the greatest honour of my professional life to have been elected to serve as your President, and I desire to acknowledge most gratefully the courteous assistance which I have invariably received from the Honorary Officers and Council, the kindly support accorded me by the Fellows of the Society, and the ever ready help of our able and enthusiastic Secretary, Mr. MacAlister.

[*Note.*—*At the close of the meeting the President and Fellows passed into the adjoining room to take part in the First General Meeting under the new constitution. See page cxlviii.*]

UNION OF MEDICAL SOCIETIES

IN further continuation of the record of proceedings and negotiations begun in *Med.-Chir. Trans.*, vol. *lxxviii*, continued in vol. *lxxix*, and now happily concluded, the Hon. Secretaries of the Committee of Representatives (Dr. Latham and Mr. Pendlebury) have kindly furnished the following :

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

(1) The first meeting of the representatives, appointed by the Amalgamating Societies under the terms of the Report of the Organising Committee adopted in July, 1906, was held at 20, Hanover Square, on January 18th, 1907.

The Societies who agreed to amalgamate on the lines laid down in the Report were :

- (1) Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society.
- (2) Pathological Society.
- (3) Epidemiological Society.
- (4) Odontological Society.
- (5) Obstetrical Society.
- (6) Clinical Society.
- (7) Dermatological Society of London.
- (8) British Gynæcological Society.
- (9) Neurological Society.
- (10) British Laryngological, Rhinological, and Otological Association.
- (11) Laryngological Society.
- (12) Dermatological Society of Great Britain and Ireland.
- (13) British Electro-Therapeutic Society.

Subsequently the Therapeutical Society decided to join the amalgamation. The Otological Society will decide whether it will join on June 10th.

(2) The following delegates of societies formed the Committee :

Sir William Church . . . . .	)	Royal Medical and Chirurgical
Mr. Warrington Haward . . . . .	)	Society.

Dr. Garrod Pathological Society.

*Dr. Whitelegge Epidemiological Society.

* After March 15th the Epidemiological Society was represented by Dr. Bulstrode.

Mr. Mummery	Odontological Society.
Dr. Champneys	Obstetrical Society.
Mr. Makins	Clinical Society.
Dr. Galloway	Dermatological Society of London.
Dr. H. Macnaughton-Jones	British Gynæcological Society.
Dr. Henry Head	Neurological Society.
Mr. Chichele Nourse . . .	British Laryngological, Rhino- logical, and Otological Asso- ciation.
Sir Felix Semon	Laryngological Society.
Dr. Stowers	Dermatological Society of Great Britain and Ireland.
Dr. Lewis Jones	British Electro - Therapeutic Society.
Dr. T. E. B. Brown	Therapeutical Society.

Dr. Frederick Taylor was appointed by the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society as their financial representative; and Mr. Lloyd Williams was appointed by the Odontological Society as their financial representative. These gentlemen were co-opted as members of the Committee.

In addition, it was decided to co-opt as members of the Committee :

The President of the Royal College of Physicians,
The President of the Royal College of Surgeons,
The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of
London,
Dr. Allchin,
Mr. T. Laurence Read.

Sir William Church was elected Chairman of the Committee; Dr. Latham and Mr. Pendlebury were elected Honorary Secretaries; Dr. Nachbar was appointed Secretary.

(3) A general meeting of members of the amalgamating societies was held at the Royal College of Physicians on February 19th to consider the name of the new Society, and it was decided to petition for a Royal Charter under the title of "The Royal Society of Medicine."

(4) HIS MAJESTY THE KING has graciously granted a Charter to The Royal Society of Medicine.

(5) A Sub-Committee, consisting of the Chairman and the Honorary Secretaries, was appointed to frame the By-laws of the new Society. These were subsequently considered and amended by the whole Committee at successive weekly meetings, and afterwards submitted to the solicitor, Mr. Lithgow. The changes recommended by the solicitor were then considered by the Committee, and the By-laws finally revised and adopted as now printed.

(6) A Sub-Committee on Finance, consisting of Mr. Haward,

Dr. F. Taylor, Dr. Head, and the Honorary Secretaries, was appointed to draw up a schedule of the assets and liabilities of the new Society, and an estimate of income and expenditure. These were adopted by the Committee, and are appended to this Report.

(7) The Honorary Secretaries sent a circular letter to each member of the amalgamating Societies, asking in what capacity he wished to join the new Society, whether as a Fellow or as a Member of one or more Sections, and enclosed a printed post-card for the reply.

An analysis of the answers received is given in the Report of the Finance Sub-Committee.

(8) An Advisory Committee, consisting of the Chairman, Dr. Head, and the Honorary Secretaries, was appointed to make such arrangements as they might deem necessary to meet the working requirements of the new Society.

(9) It was decided to hold the first meeting of the Royal Society of Medicine on Friday, June 14th:

(a) To pass a resolution constituting the Royal Society of Medicine.

(b) To pass a resolution concerning the Charter.

(c) To approve the By-laws.

(d) To appoint the President and Honorary Officers of the Society and such members of the Council as require election, not being Presidents of any Section.

(Signed) W. S. CHURCH, *Chairman*.

ARTHUR LATHAM, } *Honorary*
HERBERT S. PENDLEBURY } *Secretaries*.

May 31st, 1907.

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Estimated Income.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1. *From Subscriptions				5094	9	0
2. From Investments:						
R.M.C.S. Gant Bequest (Library) ...	16	19	8			
R.M.C.S. Permanent Endowment Fund	12	11	4			
Gynæcological Society	10	9	2			
Clinical Society (say)	7	0	0			
Obstetrical Society	134	17	3			
Pathological Society (say)	15	0	0			
Odontological Society	123	10	0			
				320	7	5
3. Rents R.M.C.S., at present	2830	0	0			
(<i>vide</i> Reports, July, 1906)				2000	0	0
4. Entrance Fees, at present	208	19	0	say	150	0
5. Composition Fees, at present	97	13	0	„	50	0
6. Sale of Proceedings, at present	210	14	0	„	100	0
				<u>£7714</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>5</u>

* This sum of £5094 represents subscriptions actually promised, in

Estimated Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Debenture Interest, R.M.C.S.	996	0	0
Maintenance and Salaries (Report of 1906)	2150	0	0
Library	454	6	0
Proceedings	1773	0	0
Extra Printing and Meeting Expenses, at present £368 ...	500	0	0
Addition to Maintenance and Salaries	550	0	0
Addition to Library Expenses	350	0	0
Balance	941	1	5
	<u>£7714</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>

Analysis of Answers received to Circular Letter.

Number of post cards issued, 2866 :

Wish to become Fellows	1443
Wish to become Members of one or more Sections ...	443
Have Compounded	104
Dead, refusals, no address, etc.	122
Not answered	754
	<u>2866</u>
1443 Fellows at £3 3s.	£4545 9 0
443 Members of one or more Sections	476 3 6
104 Compounders	72 16 6
	<u>£5094 9 0</u>

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
1. R.M.C.S.			
*Freehold and Leasehold Property, 20, Hanover Square, valuation 1896	51,150	0	0
Engravings, 1896	555	0	0
Contents of Library, 1896	9,092	14	7
2. Investments.			
(a) R.M.C.S.			
Redemption of Debenture Fund £185 8s. 10d.			
New South Wales 4 per cent. Stock	199	6	9
Permanent Endowment Fund £330 6s 3d. New South Wales 4 per cent. Stock	355	12	6
Gant bequest £510 17s. 1d. 3½ per cent. Southern Nigeria (Lagos)	500	0	0
(b) Gynæcological Society.			
£270 Grand Trunk 4 per cent. Debentures ...	289	0	0
£5 Caledonian Railway 4 per cent. Debentures	6	0	0
(c) Clinical Society.			
After expenses paid will have in Consols ...	200	0	0

response to the 2866 post cards issued. About 750 individuals have sent no answer; the majority of these will probably join as Members at £1 1s. per annum. In addition the Society is certain to attract a considerable number of new Fellows and Members from amongst those who do not belong to any of the Amalgamated Societies; especially as no entrance fee is to be imposed before March, 1908. It would appear probable that the balance of income over expenditure will be some £1500.

* Valued in 1906 at a higher figure.

* (d) Obstetrical Society.		£	s.	d.
Consols £600	...	...	...	£528
Midland Debentures £1641	...	...	...	1,287
L.C.C. 3 per cent. £807	...	...	...	759
Victoria 3 per cent. £580	...	...	...	504
				—
				3,078 0 0
(e) Pathological Society.				
After expenses, say £550 Consols	...	...	...	450 0 0
* (f) Odontological Society.				
£5,200 Consols	...	...	...	4,500 0 0
				—
				£70,375 13 10

The above figures are exclusive of Cash at Bank (£1075) at end of 1906.

Liabilities.

		£	s.	d.
£33,200 3 per cent. First Mortgage Debenture	...	...	...	33,200 0 0
Balance of Assets over Liabilities, excluding Cash				
Balance and Libraries of Obstetrical and Odontological Societies	...	...	...	37,175 13 10
				—
				£70,375 13 10

* Exclusive of value of Library and Museum.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE

THE FIRST GENERAL MEETING OF FELLOWS UNDER THE NEW CHARTER

HELD AT

THE SOCIETY'S HOUSE, 20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON,
ON FRIDAY, JUNE 14TH, 1907, AT 5.30 P.M.

Mr. WARRINGTON HAWARD (President of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society), said—Gentlemen, I think Dr. Latham has a few letters expressing regret for not being able to attend this meeting.

Dr. LATHAM (Honorary Secretary of the Amalgamation Committee) said he had received letters from Docteur R. Wybauw, of Spa; Dr. T. E. Lloyd, of Abergavenny; Dr. J. J. Cox, of Manchester; Dr. G. A. Gibson, of Edinburgh; Sir James Sawyer; Sir John Byers, Sir Constantine Holman; Dr. W. F. Somerville, of Glasgow; and Dr. Douglas Stanley, of Birmingham.

The CHAIRMAN.—Gentlemen, I take the chair, that we may proceed without delay to the proper business for which you have been called together this afternoon, and I will not detain you from that business for more than a moment. But I think we shall all agree that it is a matter for mutual congratulation that the efforts which have been made to promote the union of the Medical Societies of London have been crowned with success—(applause)—and that we are called together

to-day to take the necessary steps for establishing the Royal Society of Medicine under its new constitution. You will doubtless remember that when the question of the union of the Medical Societies was raised two years ago by Sir Richard Douglas Powell in his Presidential Address to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, the suggestion was received very favourably; and that at the meeting of members of the various Medical Societies shortly afterwards, held at the Royal College of Physicians, it was resolved that a scheme of union should be drawn up, to be presented to the various societies for consideration. As a result, there was formed an organising committee of representatives of the societies proposing to join, with Sir William Church as chairman, and it is by the labours of that committee that the matter has been brought to a successful conclusion. The King, as you know, has been graciously pleased to grant a charter conferring the necessary powers for enabling the uniting societies to join the Royal Society of Medicine. And so the idea first started in 1808, and revived unsuccessfully in 1860, and again in 1870, is at last realised. I do not doubt that this union will be to the advantage of all concerned—(hear, hear)—that it will widen the outlook, add to the strength, stimulate the vitality, and consolidate the interests of all the constituent societies; that it will facilitate co-operative work, and favour economy of management. But, Gentlemen, I need hardly say that for the attainment of this union there has been necessarily a great deal of careful negotiation; and all those who have been concerned in the matter must, I am sure, feel that the success of the Committee's work has been very largely due to the patience, the courtesy, the tact, and the skill of Sir William Church—(applause)—and of the Honorary Secretaries of that Committee, Dr. Latham and Mr. Pendlebury to whom indeed, we owe a large debt of gratitude. (Applause.) I will now ask the President of the Royal College of Physicians to propose the first resolution.

Sir RICHARD DOUGLAS POWELL.—Mr. President and Gentlemen, I have the honour to move—

“That at this meeting of Fellows of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, with Fellows and Members of the following Societies—

Pathological Society of London; Epidemiological Society; Odontological Society of Great Britain; Obstetrical Society of London; Clinical Society of London; Dermatological Society of London; British Gynæcological Society; Neurological Society; British Laryngological, Rhinological, and Otological Association; Laryngological Society of London; Dermatological Society of Great Britain and Ireland; Otological Society of Great Britain and Ireland; British Electrotherapeutic Society; Therapeutical Society—

which have agreed to unite with the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society under the name of the Royal Society of Medicine, we, who are here present, do hereby constitute ourselves the First General Meeting of the said Royal Society of Medicine, and do now proceed to do such things and acts as are necessary for the carrying on of its work under the new constitution.”

In proposing this resolution, I think perhaps a very few words may be fitting, inasmuch as this is the resolution which inaugurates and affixes the seal of accomplishment upon the scheme of union of the great Medical Societies of London, in bringing about which, as our chairman has just observed, so much time and labour and patience have been expended over a series of years. And apart from the usefulness of such a union, apart from the support and the increased strength which such union gives to each constituent member, and apart from the economy and, I hope, the increased efficiency of work which such a union must effect, I have great hopes, and I think we all believe that the effect of such a union into a great central Society, will serve more closely to co-ordinate the many ramifications into which our profession has divided. It was inevitable, and, indeed, for the progress of medicine, that branches of specialisation, both of research and practice, should arise. And the tendency, naturally, has been for those branches to lose touch some-

what with one another, and continuity with the parent stock, to become isolated and separated, and to lose that interest and that sympathy of communication which we hope may now be restored between the several branches. No man, of course, can acquire and maintain an expert knowledge of the special branches of medicine which are enumerated in this resolution, and still remain equipped with the requirements for the teaching and practice of general medicine. But I do believe that it is very possible to keep in touch with the most advanced teaching of such sections of medicine, and to utilise them in harmony and due perspective with the requirements of general medicine. And I think that this kind of co-ordination is more likely to be brought about now that these various sections are associated—happily associated—in a great central institution, of which the sections become part of a united medical science, each special department adding to the general stock of knowledge, and becoming in its turn broadened in outlook by its association with the general body. I therefore move this resolution, which I will not read again. (Applause.)

Mr. HENRY MORRIS (President of the Royal College of Surgeons).—Mr. Chairman, the proposer of this resolution, Sir Richard Douglas Powell, has told us that very few words were necessary to introduce this subject to the notice of the meeting. As the seconder of this resolution I beg to remark that I think no words from me at all, as seconder, are required; except that I should like to say I cannot help feeling that we all owe a great debt of gratitude to the various members of the Committee, and to Sir William Church, the Chairman—(Hear, hear),—who, after so long a time, and after having given so much care and attention to the matter, have been able to bring this great object to a successful termination, especially in view of the fact that all previous efforts have failed to do so. (Applause.) I therefore have very great pleasure in seconding the resolution which has been submitted to you by Sir Richard Douglas Powell. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN.—Does anybody wish to speak on this resolution? Then I put it. *Carried by acclamation.*

I declare the resolution unanimously carried. (Applause.)

Sir WILLIAM CHURCH.—I now rise, Sir, in accordance with your wish to move—

“That the By-laws which have been prepared by the Committee of Representatives of Societies, and now submitted to the meeting, be and the same are hereby adopted and confirmed as the By-laws of the Royal Society of Medicine.”

It is necessary that this general meeting should proceed at once to the adoption of the By-laws. To remove any possible misapprehension which may be in the minds of any of the Fellows, I wish to say that these By-laws, if you pass them to-day, of course, are binding only until they are abrogated or amended. All these By-laws may be abrogated or amended, according to the constitution of the Royal Society, due notice, of course, being given. I mention this because already I have heard that amendments are desired. Of course, any Fellow of the Society is at liberty to take such steps as he thinks are necessary for the amendment of the By-laws, but for the purpose of our being able to do legally the remainder of the business which is down on the agenda paper to-day, it is necessary, in the first place, that these By-laws should be passed. I therefore, without any further words, ask you to be good enough to accept the resolution that these By-laws be adopted. (Applause.)

Mr. MAKINS.—I rise, Sir, with pleasure, but with a sense of some responsibility, to second the proposition which has been submitted by Sir William Church. This is a momentous resolution since, in the main, these By-laws are those which are to steer the new ship on what we hope and believe will be a successful voyage in the future. At the same time, anybody standing in my position is able to second this resolution with the greatest confidence, because a very unusual amount of trouble has been taken in the preparation of these By-laws. Without

untiring industry, tact, and patience on the part of the Chairman and Secretaries of the late Committee of Representatives, they could never have been produced in the form in which they are to-day ; and it must be remembered that in their production the Chairman and Secretaries have been aided by representatives from each of the other Societies, and that each of the representatives from these bodies has been cognisant of the difficulties and troubles which arise in the management of Medical Societies. Consequently, I think, we have every reason to believe that these By-laws, subject to possible alterations such as Sir William Church has foreshadowed, will be a successful guide to the work of the Royal Society of Medicine in the future. I beg, Sir, to second this resolution. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN.—I may mention that in addition to the care which you have already heard has been taken in connection with these By-laws by the Committee of Representatives, legal advice has been taken as to their correctness. So I think you may safely confirm them. Does anyone wish to speak on this resolution? Then I will put it to you. *Carried unanimously.*

The CHAIRMAN.—Then, Gentlemen, having passed these By-laws, we can now proceed to the election of the Council and Honorary Officers of the Royal Society of Medicine. On page 7 of the By-laws you will find there is a special provision for the election of the Officers and Council. You will see this enactment: “All the members of the first Council (other than the *ex-officio* members)” that is to say, the Presidents of each Section of the Society who are thereby Vice-Presidents of the Royal Society of Medicine, “and all the Honorary Officers of the Society, shall be elected by show of hands at the meeting of the Society at which these By-laws are passed, or at a meeting of the Society to be held as soon as possible after the passing of these By-laws. It shall be no objection to such meeting or to the election of the Council and Officers that no notice convening such meeting shall

have been given under these By-laws or the previous By-laws of the Society. The persons so elected shall hold office until the first Annual General Meeting. The Council so elected shall be at liberty forthwith to exercise all the powers conferred upon the Council by the Charters or the By-laws, notwithstanding that the *ex-officio* members or any of them shall not have been appointed." That is the provision, and I will now ask you to proceed to the election of the Honorary Officers and Council. I will ask Sir Thomas Smith to propose the first resolution, which concerns the President.

SIR THOMAS SMITH.—Before reading the resolution, Sir, which I have the honour to have in my hand, I cannot forbear repeating the congratulations which have been uttered by others on the success attending the labours of all you gentlemen who have worked at the amalgamation of these Societies. And I may be excused for that, as, thirty-seven years ago, in a subordinate position, I very laboriously, but futilely, worked at the amalgamation of these Societies. You have been good enough to mention that, and the President of the College of Surgeons has been good enough to rub it in—(laughter),—but it was not my fault. I was only the Secretary; Sir George Burrows was President, and therefore, luckily, I cannot take a very large share on my own shoulders. However, the Society being now constituted, I think you will agree with me that the next most important step to take is to elect a President. And I also think we shall all agree that the President should be intellectually a strong man; that he should be a man of independent character, of business habits, of scientific attainments, and that he should command the respect of the members of this Society. Now, the terms of the resolution which I shall read to you abundantly fulfils all those conditions. It is to the effect:

“That Sir William Church, Baronet, K.C.B., be and is hereby elected the first President of the Royal Society of Medicine.”

(Loud applause.) We all know that for the last two years Sir William Church has worked hard at this amalgamation, and I am informed that he has never omitted to attend any meeting, either of the General Committee, of which he was Chairman, or any of the Sub-committees, to many of which he was summoned to attend. Indeed, he has never failed to attend a single meeting in the last two years. (Applause.) I have very great pleasure, Sir, and I feel honour in doing so, in proposing that Sir William Church be elected first President of the Royal Society of Medicine. (Applause).

Dr. OSLER.—I have much pleasure, Mr. Chairman, in rising to second this resolution. I cannot add anything to what Sir Thomas Smith has said in regard to the qualifications of our future President. He is known to you all, he occupies a distinguished position in the profession, but, above all, Sir, he is that "rare bird" in the profession, a good business man, and that is what we need to steer the ship safely. May I, Sir, with such an audience before me, say one word which is not quite pertinent to the subject? I think, Sir, that what is needed now for this Royal Society of Medicine is money for a new building and for the development of the Library, and I think the profession in this great metropolis can get it. They can get anything they want if they go to their friends, and no profession has such friends as we have. (Hear, hear). I would ask you to remember that "He who asketh much getteth much." (Laughter.) I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN.—It is evident by your reception of this resolution that it is hardly necessary to put it. But, as a matter of form, it must be put. Therefore, I ask those who are in favour of it to signify it in the usual way. ("All, all.") *Carried by acclamation.*

The CHAIRMAN.—You will all agree, Gentlemen, that we are extremely fortunate, as Sir Thomas Smith has already stated, in obtaining as the first President of the

Royal Society of Medicine one who will preside over it with such dignity and wisdom as we know Sir William Church will. And I will ask him now to take the chair, which I gladly vacate in his favour. (Loud applause.)

SIR WILLIAM CHURCH then took the chair.

Mr. HAWARD.—Mr. President, I have the pleasure to present to you a symbol of your presidential authority, the Master-key¹ to this building, which will henceforth be the home of the Royal Society of Medicine. (Applause.)

The PRESIDENT.—Fellows of the Royal Society, I have to thank you, and I do thank you very deeply and sincerely for the honour which you have just paid me in electing me the President of the Royal Society of Medicine. It is a very great honour indeed, and I appreciate it most highly. To be elected the first President of this Royal Society is, I feel, an historical event, not only in my life, but in the history of the Society. I feel assured that this Society has a great future before it, and that it will be representative of all that is best and highest in the ethical, the scientific, and the practical work of medicine. (Hear, hear.) I feel that by your favour I really have been placed in a position to which I not only have no claim, but for which I am scarcely fitted. When I look around upon those who surround me to-day I see many who have very much higher claims, from the advancement which they have made in their various branches of medical study, than I have. And if I consider that your vote that places me in the chair to-day has been in any way due to the fact that you think that I have worked hard in endeavouring to effect this union, I again feel that I have not a right claim to be in the chair, for I can assure you that the greater part of the labour should be attributed to others. And, in connection with that, I cannot refrain from saying that the bulk of the labour—the heat—if I may say so—of the

¹ The gift of the Secretary, Mr. MacAlister, to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, on the opening of the building.

day fell upon the two Honorary Secretaries, who have been the Honorary Secretaries of the Organising Committee and of all the Committees, which have had many meetings in this and the contiguous rooms. To them I looked for advice and assistance, and to be prompted in the work, and I never looked in vain. And it is to them, and to the advice and assistance that we have received from others, that our labours have been brought to the satisfactory end that I think they have to-day. I had intended to ask your permission to say a few words as to the steps by which this union has been formed, and also about the objects which the promoters of the idea had in their minds, but much of that has been so well said by Mr. Haward and by the President of the Royal College of Physicians, that I will not trouble you with the remarks which I was going to make on the subject. But allow me now to congratulate Sir Richard Douglas Powell on having succeeded where so many have failed before him. (Applause.) To him it is due that we are here to-day. It was he who asked me, from the accident of my being at the time President of the Royal College of Physicians, to call the societies together, and, but for his action, I certainly should not have taken the step myself. Therefore it is primarily due to him, and to the wise words which he let fall in his Presidential Address to the Society in 1905. It is primarily due to him that we are here as the Royal Society of Medicine to-day. (Applause.) I would, however, just like, if you will allow me, to express my own views, telling you what were the objects present in my mind which made me desirous that this union of societies should take place. They were the same that, I believe, influenced former generations, and they may be summed up in very few words: the advancement of British medicine. (Applause.) The remarkable increase in our knowledge which has taken place during quite recent years, and the necessity for the application of scientific methods for the attainment of such knowledge, has rendered a division of

labour absolutely necessary. It has become impossible for any one person to be cognisant of all the subjects which surround medicine, and upon which medicine to a great extent depends. Neither can any one society profess to offer opportunities for the demonstration and discussion of the very diverse subjects which stand now in more or less close relationship with medicine. Hence it is certain that, just as numerous special societies have already been formed, other special subjects will require societies or sections in the future. And it was with the desire that their work should be co-ordinated, and to keep the sections more in touch both with one another and with what I may call medicine and surgery taken in the whole, which made me take so much interest in the union of the societies when first this scheme was mooted. The promoters of the union also believe that by this means the members of the old societies as Sections will obtain greater facilities of intercourse with other sections, and this at much less expense. Further, it places, at a comparatively small cost, what I trust will soon become the principal medical library in the Kingdom, at the convenience of not only the Fellows of the Society, but also of members of sections, most of which, as separate societies, had no library of their own. In fact, I believe, and I think most of those who work with me believe, in the old proverb, "In union is strength," whilst in separation, even if it be separation without discord, there is weakness. I would like to add that, although we are somewhat disappointed that the oldest of our London medical societies has not seen its way to join our union, they no doubt have good reasons for remaining aloof, and will continue to fill a useful position in the medical life of the metropolis, and we wish them well. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, let me again thank you for the honour which you have done me. You have placed me in a position the responsibility of which is great, for I believe that by our action to-day we have established a Society which is destined to have a great and powerful

influence on the medical profession, as well as on the development and furtherance of medical science. With your assistance and forbearance I trust that I may be enabled to fill the chair to the satisfaction of the Society, and to maintain in it the traditions and principles which have been held by the many distinguished men who have, in former years, occupied the Presidential chair of the old Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society. (Applause.)

The Royal Society of Medicine will now proceed to the election of its Honorary Officers and Council. Lists of names have been placed in the room, and it is in the power of any Fellow to substitute other names, and demand that a ballot be taken. It was thought desirable that some names should be placed before you, in order that you might have the means of knowing those gentlemen who some of us thought would take great interest in the Royal Society of Medicine, and would be of much assistance and use upon this Council. I need hardly remind the Royal Society of Medicine that the labours of this Council will be very arduous, and those who have not taken part at all in the organisation of the Society can have little idea of the amount of detail which has yet to be arranged before we can get so complex a Society as the Royal Society in a condition in which its work will go on without difficulty or friction. I trust, therefore, that the Fellows of the Royal Society of Medicine will not be impatient. I fear that there must be difficulties and some little friction at first, but I trust that the labours of the Council may bear such fruit that when the first session of the Royal Society of Medicine commences next October things may be in a condition to work easily and smoothly. I have ventured to make those few remarks, because I thought some of you might be under the impression that everything would be ready to be started from to-day. But that is really impossible; some time must be given for the Council to get things into working order.

I now call upon Dr. Pyc-Smith.

Dr. PYE-SMITH, F.R.S.—Gentlemen, I have been asked to move the following resolution :

“That the following nominations of the Committee of Representatives of Societies for the posts of Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Librarian, and Honorary Secretary, and for such Members of Council (other than *ex-officio* members) as require election be and the same are hereby adopted and confirmed.”

Honorary Treasurers.—F. H. Champneys, M.D. ; A. Pearce Gould, M.S.

Honorary Librarians.—Rickman J. Godlee, M.S. ; Henry Head, M.D., F.R.S. ; Norman Moore, M.D.

Honorary Secretaries.—Arthur Latham, M.D. ; Herbert S. Pendlebury, M.B., B.C.

Members of Council.—Sir Richard Douglas Powell, Bt., K.C.V.O., M.D. (*President of the Royal College of Physicians*) ; Henry Morris, M.B. (*President of the Royal College of Surgeons*) ; J. Warrington Haward ; G. H. Makins, C.B. ; Sir Shirley F. Murphy ; Thomas Laurence Read ; Sir Felix Semon, K.C.V.O., M.D. ; Frederick Taylor, M.D. ; Thomas J. Walker, M.D.

We feel, Sir, I think all of us, that on this auspicious day there is no need for prolonged speeches ; and I will only say that I trust and believe most heartily that the amalgamation and union which we have accomplished this day will be of the utmost use, not only to the benefit of each Society which has joined in it and for the progress of medical science, but to the universal benefit of ourselves and the whole profession. And it has this great advantage, that it is a striking instance which we can show to all the outside world, that after all our profession is one—(Hear, hear)—that we have all the same education, the same scientific basis, the same practical experience, and that the art which we practise is one and the same art ; that it will flourish as our efforts flourish, and will be always to the good of the whole nation. I beg, Sir, to move that resolution. (Applause.)

Mr. CLINTON DENT.—I have great pleasure, Sir, in seconding the resolution. But I think that no words are needed from me ; the names here are thoroughly repre-

sentative, they are all those of trusted and tried men, most of them having held the several offices which they are now going to adorn by the hard work which you, Sir, have already foreshadowed for them. I will say no more, but will second this resolution, for I resolved to myself that in this Royal Society of Medicine any speeches I may make shall, if it lies in my power, be to the point, and that, at any rate, they shall be characterised by brevity. (Applause.)

The PRESIDENT.—If no Fellow wishes to add to or alter any of these names I will put the resolution to the meeting.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT.—The next point upon the agenda paper is a technical one, and I venture to move it myself from the chair, and that is—

“That Messrs. Newson Smith, Lord and Mundy, Chartered Accountants, be appointed Auditors of the Society’s accounts.”

Many of you know that that firm has for many years audited the accounts of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, and I think they have always given the Treasurers and other officers complete satisfaction. I venture to hope that you will nominate them as the first auditors of the Royal Society of Medicine.

The resolution was carried.

The PRESIDENT.—I call upon Sir Thomas Barlow to propose the next resolution.

Sir THOMAS BARLOW.—Mr. President and Fellows of the Royal Society of Medicine,—The resolution which I will ask you to carry is that a vote of thanks to the members of the Committees and Sub-committees who have conducted the necessary negotiations from April, 1905, be accorded. Sir, this is one of the resolutions which only needs to be read to commend itself to the hearty acceptance of everybody in this room. I am sure that many Fellows have little conception of the amount of labour that has been

taken up in the constitution of this Society. (Hear, hear.) It has involved weekly meetings during a great part of the period which has elapsed since the subject was first accepted by the profession, and the skill, the tenacity, the good temper, and the kindness which have been shown by the members of these Committees and Sub-committees are beyond all praise. The Royal Society of Medicine, Sir, has shown its appreciation of the valuable work of the Chairman of these Committees by electing you as President of this Society, and I can only say that you, Sir, and your colleagues have not only earned the gratitude of English medicine in this generation, but for many generations to come. I have great pleasure in moving this resolution. (Applause.)

The PRESIDENT.—I will ask Dr. Habershon to second it.

Dr. HABERSHON.—I have been asked, Sir, to say a word or two in seconding this resolution. I feel that no words can be added to the graceful speech of Sir Thomas Barlow, nor to the expression of the feeling which we have heard in the various speeches to-day. We all owe the very greatest debt of gratitude to those gentlemen who formed the Committees and Sub-committees which have been practically the builders of this ship which is now launched. And I think I may reiterate that since at every meeting the President, Sir William Church, has been present, and also the Honorary Secretaries, we owe them a double debt of gratitude—(applause)—for the care, the courtesy, the patience which they have shown, and the arduous labours they have had. I beg to second this resolution. (Applause.)

The resolution was unanimously carried.

The PRESIDENT.—Dr. Latham asks me, for the Honorary Secretaries and the other members of the Committees, to return to you their very grateful thanks for the resolution which you have passed. And that, I believe, concludes the meeting.

REPORT OF THE HON. TREASURERS

ON THE

FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE SOCIETY AT
THE DATE OF AMALGAMATION.

In presenting our Financial Statement up to June 30th, 1907, we would particularly draw attention to the fact that the item of "Sundry Liabilities," which stood at the end of 1906 at £1438 18s. 7d., has been reduced to £78 17s., which is the amount of interest accrued (but not yet due) upon the Debenture Bonds since May 31st.

Having paid all accounts due against the Society up to date, and having added more than £100 to the "Debenture Redemption Fund," there is a balance in hand of £923 13s. 1d.

It is a great satisfaction to us that the closing Financial Statement of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, under its old constitution, is so eminently satisfactory.

W. S. CHURCH. | Hon.
A. PEARCE GOULD. | Treasurers.

2nd August, 1907.

[For Accounts see over.

STATEMENT OF LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, 30TH JUNE, 1907

LIABILITIES.

3 per Cent. First Mortgage Debentures, 33,200 0 0

Proportion of Interest on Debentures accrued to date but not payable until the 30th November. (N.B.—The Interest on Debentures is payable 31st May and 30th November. The last payment was on 31st May, and the amount accrued is calculated to 30th June)

Balance, being Surplus of Assets over Liabilities, viz. —

Balance, 31st Dec., 1906 £29,376 7 9

Add

Excess of Income over Expenditure for the half-year 923 13 1

30,300 0 10

Less

Depreciation of Investments to Par 42 6 1

30,257 14 9

£63,536 11 9

W. S. CHURCH, M.D., } Hon. Treasurers.
A. PEARCE GOULD, M.S., }

Audited and approved,

NEWSON-SMITH, LORD & MUNDY,
Chartered Accountants,

37, Walbrook, E.C.,
2nd August, 1907.

ASSETS.

Freehold and Leasehold Property as per valuation of Messrs. Giddy and Giddy, on 2nd June, 1896 51,150 0 0

Subsequent additions 416 11 6

51,566 11 6

Fixtures, Fittings, and Furniture Less 5 per cent. written off for depreciation 34 4 0

1,334 4 0
555 0 0

Engravings

(as per Valuation of Mr. F. B. Daniell, Aug. 19, 1896).

Contents of Library (as per Valuation)

9,092 14 7

Investments in New South Wales Inscribed Stock—

Debenture Redemption Fund 288 11 11

Permanent Endowment Fund 330 16 3

619 8 2

Sundry Debtors for Rents, Outstanding Subscriptions, etc.

Cash at Bank and in hand

319 13 4
49 0 2

£63,536 11 9

J. Y. W. MAC ALISTER, Secretary.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1907.

VOL. XC.	Expenditure	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Income	£	s.	d.	
	Rent, Rates, Taxes, and Insurance ...	61	19	2	435	3	0	Annual Subscriptions at £3 3s.	1370	5	0	
	Salaries of Staff and Accountant ...	355	15	0	149	1	0	do.	156	9	0	
	House Servants, Cleaners, etc. ...	185	1	2				Composition Fees ...	—	1525	14	0
	Lighting, Warming, and Cleaning ...	159	6	3				Entrance Fees ...	...	22	1	0
	Printing, Stationery, Stamps, and Telegrams ...	79	17	3				Rents Receivable ...	...	22	1	0
	Meeting Expenses ...	50	13	10				Sale of 'Transactions' ...	...	1321	18	6
	Miscellaneous Disbursements ...	31	0	2				Sale of 'Climates and Baths' ...	...	54	11	5
	Repairs, Alterations, etc. ...	—	—	—	923	12	10	Interest: Permanent Endowment	...	2	10	8
	Depreciation of Fixtures, Fittings, etc. ...	145	18	4				Fund ...	...	6	5	8
	Library Purchases and Expenses ...	34	4	0				Miscellaneous Receipts:	...	2	9	1
	Interest on Debentures ...	313	2	2				Interest on Deposit ...	...	17	4	0
	'Transactions' ...	498	0	0				Fees for use of Epidiascope ...	...	8	9	10
	Audit Fee ...	60	16	9				Grant Bequest: Interest ...	...	—	—	—
	Telephone ...	10	10	0					...	£2984	5	2
	Lift Charges ...	4	3	10					...	—	—	—
	Amalgamation Expenses ...	24	12	0					...	—	—	—
	Balance, being excess of Income over Expenditure during the half-year	923	13	1					...	—	—	—
		£2984	5	2					...	—	—	—

Audited and approved,

NEWSON-SMITH, LORD & MUNDY,

Chartered Accountants,

37, Walbrook, E.C.

2nd August, 1907.

W. S. CHURCH, M.D., } Hon. Treasurers.

A. PEARCE GOULD, M.S., }

J. Y. W. MACALISTER, Secretary.

[For Investments, etc., see over.]

PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND.

[Established and Contributed to by the Donations of Fellows.]

From Sir Richard Quain	£100
“ Mr. Edward Law Hussey	50
“ Sir Richard Douglas Powell	100
“ Mr. Edwin Unwin Berry	124
“ Dr. Fitzpatrick	5
	<hr/>
	£379

Invested in £330 16s. 3d. (par value) New South Wales Inscribed 4 per Cent. Stock “A” a/c.

MARSHALL HALL MEMORIAL FUND.

[Being the amount subscribed for a Memorial to Marshall Hall. Every five years the accumulated interest is given as a Prize for the best published work on ‘Nervous Diseases.’]

	£	s.	d.
Consols in trust on 31st Dec., 1906 (<i>par value</i>)	631	14	5
Interest for six months (added to Fund)	8	8	0
	<hr/>		
	£640	2	5
	<hr/>		
	£640	2	5

GANT BEQUEST (£500).

[Being a sum of £500 bequeathed to the Society by the late Fredk. James Gant (sometime Vice-President of the Society) to be invested and the income to be spent on books to be marked “Gant Bequest.”]
Invested in £510 17s. 1d. (*par value*) Southern Nigeria (Lagos) 3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock.

DEBENTURE REDEMPTION FUND.

(New South Wales Inscribed 4 per cent. Stock “B” a/c.

	£	s.	d.
In trust on 31st December, 1906	185	8	10
costing	203	9	3
Investment (including interest for half year) to purchase	103	3	1
costing	110	11	6
	<hr/>		
	£314	0	9
	<hr/>		
	£314	0	9

Audited and approved,
W. S. CHURCH, M.D., } Hon. Treasurers.
A. PEARCE GOULD, M.S., }

NEWSON-SMITH, LORD & MUNDY,
Chartered Accountants,
37, Watbrook, E.C.

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